

EKO

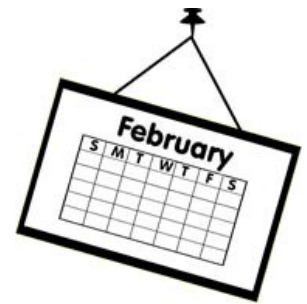
**The Magazine for
East Kilbride
Old Parish Church**



FEBRUARY 2025

EDITION 634

Church Calendar



FEBRUARY

Sunday 2nd	Sacrament of Communion	11am
	Short Communion Service	3pm
Thursday 6th	Short Communion Service	12 noon
	Followed by a light lunch	12.30pm
Sunday 9th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 16th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 23rd	Morning Worship	11am

MARCH

Sunday 2nd	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 9th	Morning Worship	11am



Flower Calendar



In all Sundays in February the Flower Fund will provide the flowers for the church sanctuary.

If you would like to dedicate the flowers for any specific Sunday, please phone Elizabeth Robertson: 01355 243205

Pastoral Letter

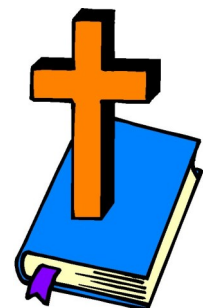


As I write this, the first big storm of the year is on its way, Storm Eowyn. It promises extremely strong winds, battering rain, but as far as I can see, no snow for East Kilbride, but that can all change in the blink of an eye. This country started naming storms in the 2015/2016 storm season and they follow the letters of the alphabet. The first storm to be named was Storm Abigail on 10th November 2015. Don't you think that Abigail sounds too gentle a name for a storm? From the 1800s, storms in the Caribbean were named after the feast days of the saints on which the storm hit. Was that better?

Life is full of storms, and I don't mean the meteorological ones. Someone once said that each of us is either coming out of a storm or getting ready to go into one. You know the things I mean like health worries, family worries, financial worries, the list goes on. No one is exempt from the storms of life. On a personal level, I've come out of my own storms in the last couple of years with my health and have two new hips and two new eyes, so life is good. However, my storm on the horizon is my mother's health as it continues to deteriorate and is not going to get any better.

When the physical storms come, we batten down the hatches and try to stay indoors as much as we can. When the personal storms come, we need to find different ways to cope with them. I'm sure we know the story from the bible where Jesus calms the storm, and the storm was stilled. Unfortunately, there are storms in our lives that Jesus is unable to still and we have to go through them, but we have his assurance that whatever we go through, he will be with us. "And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20)

Yours in love, *Anne Paton*



Mission Planning



Mission Planning : Update

In October 2021 our Kirk Session, along with others across the length and breadth of Scotland, began the planning process to be undertaken throughout the whole church to determine the shape of the Church of Scotland for future years. A Mission Plan for our Presbytery was finally approved in June 2024. This Plan brought the Old Parish, West Kirk and Stewartfield into a “cluster” with the intention to unite all three congregations into a single, united charge. Presbytery established a Mission Planning Team to assist congregations with the process of implementing the Plan.

The Mission Planning Team has been consulted on the timetable for implementation of the union, and we have been advised that the initial intention of the Team was for our cluster to be dealt with in the second half of 2026. However, the Convenor of the Mission Plan Team indicated that as there are at present 2 Ministers in the cluster on unrestricted tenure, our own Minister and the Minister at the West Kirk, and that the Plan has allocated only a single Minister for the new, united congregation, the Implementation Team could not engage in the process of union until one of the current Ministers retired or moved to another position. We should remember that in the Church of Scotland the security of tenure of Ministers is a critically important aspect of ministry and must be respected by Kirk Sessions and congregations.

Effectively this means that until there is a vacancy in one of these two churches progress towards union cannot proceed and indeed might be many years away. In the meantime, we will continue to foster good relationships with the West Kirk and Stewartfield through joint social events and cooperative working on common issues as these should benefit us all when the time comes to return to the matter of church union.

Alistair Walker—Session Clerk



Iain's Monthly Update

All our groups have restarted for 2025 and are going well.

I am in the preparation, planning and research stages for the events which will take us up to the school summer holidays at the end of June. I will share all the details, dates and information of future activities / events in the March edition of the magazine as well as in the notices in the weekly Church Order of Services and posters displayed around the church halls.

As well as all the regular groups, I plan to hold a fun monthly community event the first of which will be a fun quiz night scheduled to be held on Saturday 22nd February in the Glebe St Hall – a poster follows with all the details of how to get involved in that event. Thereafter a beetle drive in March followed by some Easter activities during the school holiday, the 5th Angus McConnell Memorial football tournament which usually takes place at the beginning of June and of course our week-long summer holiday club which usually takes place on the last week of the school summer holidays.

We have our next Messy Church session on Sunday 2nd February from 2-4pm in the Glebe St Hall and our theme is 'Love' as it will soon be Valentine's Day and our Bible theme will be John 3 v 16 - "For God so loved the World". There is a poster advertising this event with all the details but EVERYONE is welcome but all children must be accompanied by a responsible adult(s).

Messy Church is scheduled to take place on the first Sunday of every month from 2-4pm. Please spread the word come along and invite others.

To finish, I attach a simple promise that parents should keep in mind at all times when dealing with their child(ren) –

- I am not your friend.
- I am your Mum/Dad.
- I will stalk you, lecture you, drive you insane, be your worst nightmare and hunt you down like a bloodhound when needed.
- Why?
- Because I LOVE YOU!!
- When you understand that, I will know you are a reasonable and responsible adult.
- You will NEVER find someone who loves, prays, cares and worries about you MORE THAN I DO.

Thank you for all your encouragement, support, prayers and friendship – I really appreciate it so very much.

Iain (Youth & Families Worker) mobile 07912 295943 / email iainshaw18@gmail.com

East Kilbride Old Parish Church

Family Quiz Night

On Saturday 22nd February 2025

In The Glebe St. Church Hall

From 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Teams of 4 required (6 max)

To book a table please text/email Iain Shaw on 07912295943 or iainshaw18@gmail.com

Cost £10 per team payable at the event – includes refreshments





**East Kilbride Old
Parish Church**



Our next Messy Church session will take place

ON Sunday 2nd February 2025

FROM 2-4pm

WHERE - The Glebe St Church Hall in the Village

THEME - Love

COST - Free

Everyone is welcome especially FAMILIES - All children MUST be accompanied by a responsible adult but not all adults need bring a child(ren).

BIBLE STORIES, REFRESHMENTS, GAMES, ART & CRAFTS, QUIZZES, MUSIC & FUN FOR ALL AGES.

To book a place contact Iain Shaw - email

iainshaw18@gmail.com or text 07912295943



Maxwellton Endowment School

In 1839, Colonel Sir William Alexander Maxwell of Calderwood, who was very interested in education, established a school in Maxwellton Road. At that time Maxwellton was a small weaving village and the children benefitted from the new school.

A wide range of subjects was taught including English, Arithmetic, Latin and Natural Philosophy, For girls, dressmaking, millinery and domestic subjects were included.

The school was endowed with various settlements from 1841 – 1865, covering school property and houses for male and female staff.

£100 was paid from the Lands of Calderwood to pay for the education of the poor, twenty of whom were educated free. Out of the endowment of £100, the headmaster's salary was £40, female teacher's salary was £12, the assistants salary £12 and £15 for prizes. The balance of £21 for upkeep.

Charles Spalding was schoolmaster at Maxwellton Endowment School between

1849 – 1875. He was baptised on 2nd September 1810 at Kirkmichael, Perthshire, the son of Duncan and Marjory Spalding nee Robertson. Charles was ordained Elder at Errol Parish Church in November 1837. On 16th May 1875 he was admitted to our Kirk Session.

In 1900 he and his wife Jane celebrated their golden wedding. At this time Charles was considered to be the Church of Scotland's oldest Elder.

Charles died Easter Day 15th April 1906, aged 95 years, his wife Jane Donaldson died 11th October 1911, aged 84 years.

In the 1861 census Catherine Aird was an assistant teacher .She was born c1843 the daughter of John and Catherine Aird. Catherine died on 12th September 1868, aged 26 years and is buried in the Kirkyard (Lair 247).

Archibald Eaglesome was appointed headmaster after Charles Spalding. He was born at Girvan on 18th October 1854, the son of James and Marion Eaglesome nee Guthrie. In 1885 he married Jeanie Gardner Stewart. Archibald died at Maxwellton Schoolhouse on 17th May 1888 and is buried in the Kirkyard (Lair 363).

William Russell was appointed headmaster in 1888 and retired in 1908, Margaret Thomson, the infant teacher, was in charge till the school closed in 1910.

Ref: East Kilbride The History of the Parish and Village by Thomas Eric Niven

Scotlandspeople.com

East Kilbride Parish Magazine 1900 & 1906.

Fiona Dawson

Craft Group



The Craft Group meets weekly in the lounge area from 10am until noon each Wednesday. Any 'crafty' people will be made most welcome to join us.

Jill Cowan

Kirk Life



This will be my last Kirk Life Report as Convener as I am standing down.

I would like to thank each and everyone of you who have supported me in my time as Convener.

After the Burns Supper our next event that has been planned will be

The Coalburn Silver Band Concert on the 30th May.

Once again Thank you, and God Bless. *Ken Ross* (Kirk Life Convenor)

The Prayer Group

Catherine Selfridge , Janice Gourlay, Anne Learmonth and Marilyn Ross meet in the Lounge Area after the Church service and invite you to visit/join them in the Prayer Group at any time.

There are Prayer request boxes in the Church Sanctuary - one upstairs at the east side and one downstairs next to the Baptismal Font. Rest assured all Prayer requests will be treated with the utmost respect and discretion. Only first names should be given along with a brief reason for the request, i.e. awaiting treatment, etc.

FEBRUARY

1st. Lord, grant me strength to serve and fulfil my commitment to the task.

2nd. Lord, help me never to forget that "Prayer" is a golden key which should unlock the morning and lock up the evening.

3rd. Thank you for the knowledge that You are always with me.

4th. Lord, grant wisdom to world leaders so that they may understand that peace, rather than war, is best for all nations,

5th. Father God, we lift to you, our loved ones, our communities, and the world.

6th. Father in heaven, thank you for guiding and protecting me when I feel lonely, and being with me from dawn until dusk. Guide my steps and make me strong to overcome any obstacles that may come my way.

7th. Lord, thank you for the knowledge that you hear me, see me, and are always with me.

8th. Lord, thank you for all the blessings and strength you give us when we most need you.

9th. Your love does not have strings attached; it has lifelines. Thank you, Lord.

10th. Thank you, Father, for wakening me up today. I am so grateful for all the good things you have done for me.

11th. Sometimes life hurts so much, Lord, that I try to relieve my emotional pain by doing something to make someone else feel bad. Please forgive me.

12th. Father, thank you for the friendships that sustain us when times are difficult.

13th. Help me, Father, to stop worrying about tomorrow. Today is only about today.

- 14th. Father, please give those in authority the patience, humility, wisdom, and endurance to persevere in bringing about positive solutions for their nations.
- 15th. Lord, you are our ultimate source of strength. When we are weak you are strong and guide and comfort us.
- 16th. When weakness sets in and weariness takes hold, Father, be my source of energy and renewal.
- 17th. Lord, there is a lesson I need to learn about wisdom, but I don't know what it is. I know I need this, and you want me to have it, and I ask you to help me.
- 18th. Trust and believe that God is leading you to a fulfilment hidden from you. Know only goodness can come of what is planned under the shadow of that Guiding Hand.
- 19th. Lord, help me to recognise the needs in other people, and willingness on my part to respond.
- 20th. Father, when fatigue sets in and weariness takes hold, be my source of energy and renewal.
- 21st. Heavenly Father, I ask that you fill my heart and lips with every action with your words. Words and actions that reconcile, heal, and bring hope and life to others.
- 22nd. Father God, strengthen my resolve and grant me the courage to embrace both the challenges and the joys that come with caring for my loved ones.
- 23rd. Lord, thank you for the opportunity to see this new day and overcome any hurdles that may come my way.
- 24th. Give me a sign of your goodness that my enemies may see it and be put to shame, for you Lord, have helped and comforted me.
- 25th. We give thanks, Lord, that every day belongs to you and that praise and adoration can make even the worst day good.
- 26th. Father God, we pray for our world today. We pray for peace and hope to abound.
- 27th. When faced with moments of frustration or impatience, Father, help me to pause, breathe, and centre myself in your peace.
- 28th. We give thanks, Lord, for your provision of love, peace and protection for all humans.

MARCH

- 1st. Please comfort those who are in despair and help your followers to be moved with compassion to share your love.
- 2nd. Lord, we praise you for the recent medical advances against many diseases. We pray resources will be fairly distributed around the world.
- 3rd. Forgive me for trying to remake the world into my idea of perfection, rather than working with you to restore it to your original design.
- 4th. Tomorrow is a secret. The far horizon's rim, conceals God's hidden purpose, so leave it all to him.
- 5th. Lord, as we enter this Lenton Season, be near us, guide us and give us strength to overcome all challenges.

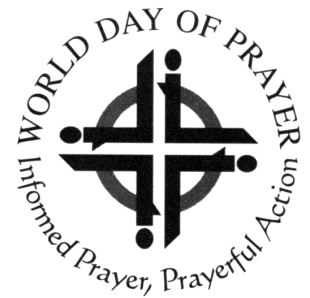
The Guild



The Guild will meet on Wed 12th February at 2pm in the Glebe Street Hall. The speaker will be Lesley McIlhagger. Her theme will be the Cot-tar's Saturday Night.

On Wed 26th February we will have Malcolm McIntyre to speak about this year's project 'Let's Build a House' proposed by Crossreach. All welcome.

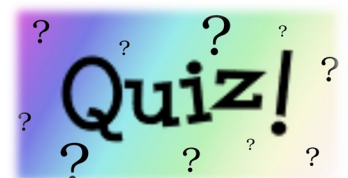
World Day of Prayer



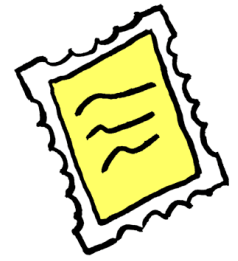
Our local service for the World Day of Prayer will be held in East Kilbride Old Parish Church on Friday 7th March at 2.30pm. This year's theme has been prepared by the women of the Cook Islands. The service will be led by representatives of local churches. All welcome, men and women to this ecumenical event.

Big Afternoon Tea and Quiz

Following the cancellation of the quiz in January due to illness a new date has been arranged for this event which is a chance for Stewartfield, West Kirk and the Old Parish to meet and socialise and raise money for Tearfund. The new date is Saturday 5th April from 2-4pm. There will be a nice afternoon tea, a raffle and the Quiz. Tickets will be available soon, price £5.



Re-Used Stamps



Please keep bringing in your Used Stamps. The Church of Scotland reports that more than £18,000 has been raised in 2023 and 2024 for a project to create tree nurseries in Malawi. We are also happy to pass on any collections of stamps that members are prepared to donate.

Mary Smith

Men's Association



We have two meetings in February. On Monday 3rd, our Guest Speaker will be Ian Douglas, speaking about his involvement as Chaplain to the Air Training Corps. Ian is a Reader with the Church of Scotland and has conducted worship in the Old Parish on several occasions. Then on Monday 17th, Malcolm McIntyre will be speaking about "Crossreach", the Church of Scotland's Social Services. Malcolm is an Elder in Moncreiff Church.

Looking ahead, the Rev David Currie will be our Guest Speaker on Monday 3rd March. David's theme is entitled "Adventures in Ministry and Mission".

The Carpet Bowling Club will meet on February 10th and 24th. All our meetings are in the Glebe Street Hall and start at 2pm. Our meetings are open to anyone – men and women – for whom a particular topic may be of special interest.

Stewart Smith



CARPET BOWLING

Community Link

Just a quick reminder of the short Communion Service on Thursday 6th Feb at 12 noon followed by a light lunch in the hall at 12.30pm.

Norma Penman & Diana Ramsay - Joint Convenors



Coded Words for The Fall of Jericho

Each number stands for a letter of the alphabet. Write the correct letter in the blank to find the coded words and phrase.

Code key

A 1	J 10	S 19
B 2	K 11	T 20
C 3	L 12	U 21
D 4	M 13	V 22
E 5	N 14	W 23
F 6	O 15	X 24
G 7	P 16	Y 25
H 8	Q 17	Z 26
I 9	R 18	

23 1 12 12 19

13 1 18 3 8

9 19 18 1 5 12

10 15 19 8 21 1

20 18 21 13 16 5 20 19

God is _____ .
 16 15 23 5 18 6 21 12



Pastoral Register

Deaths - *"I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."*

Alice Beaton

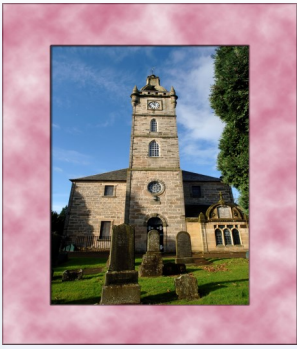


EKO Submissions

The dates for submission of material for the February EKO are: for hand/type-written copy **Sunday 15th February** and the deadline for submitting electronic copy is:-

Wednesday 19th February

Thank you. *David Kent* - Editor 01355 237275, 07890 262267 or, davidkent28@virginmedia.com



EAST KILBRIDE OLD PARISH CHURCH

In case of illness and bereavement, would the family please contact the minister immediately and directly.

Rev. Anne Paton will be available for consultation in the vestry after Sunday morning worship. Please arrange such consultation with the door duty team.

East Kilbride Old Parish Church, Church of Scotland, Scottish Charity—SC000609

Minister	Rev. Anne Paton BA BD 40 Maxwell Drive. G74 4HJ E-mail address: apaton@churchofscotland.org.uk	Tel. 01355 220732 Mobile 07912295940
Pastoral Assistants:	Rev. Stewart Smith MA BD and Miss Sheena Bell	
Youth & Families Worker	Iain Shaw E-mail: iainshaw18@gmail.com	
Session Clerk	Alistair Walker	
Treasurer	Des Laverty	
Roll Keeper	Robert Cossar	
Gift Aid	Des Laverty	
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