

# EKO

The Magazine  
for  
East Kilbride  
Old Parish  
Church



## SUMMER EDITION

**JUNE 2022**

**EDITION 608**

# Church Calendar

JUNE 2022						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY

Our services are all live in the church and are also broadcast over the internet. If you wish to view the service live then go to the church website at: [www.ekopc.org.uk](http://www.ekopc.org.uk)

Track and trace is no longer in operation so all may attend church without booking in advance. Distancing measures have been removed from most of the pews of the church with the exception of those in the west transept where people may sit if they wish to keep a safe distance. Face coverings and hand sanitising will be very much up to each member's preference.

Recordings of each service should become available at some point fairly soon after the service has taken place.

## JUNE

Sunday 5th	Sacrament of Communion	11am
Sunday 12th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 19th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 26th	Morning Worship	11am

Since this journal will not be published through July and August, it is expected that all the services will continue as usual with morning worship at 11am every Sunday.



## Pastoral Letter



A couple of Sundays ago, I quoted from a report to last month's General Assembly. It stated that in the average Church of Scotland congregation there are 176 members, and 40 are present in worship on a Sunday. The congregation will have had no professions of faith, no weddings, and no baptisms for several years. They will have a Kirk Session of 16 elders, and they will have 4 children associated with the congregation. I find this a staggering statistic, as that means that half the congregations have fewer numbers than this average.

Last November, I was asked to be one of a committee of nine, tasked with devising a plan to reduce the number of buildings and congregations by 40%. I cannot stress enough, that the Church of Scotland is currently in crisis. For years we have put off making difficult decisions about closing buildings and merging congregations, but that is simply not an option anymore.

While that sounds like doom and gloom, I have absolute confidence that God is not finished with the Church of Scotland. He has not left the building. The plan is being called a "mission plan" and the focus is on enabling churches to become more missional. I have heard stories of congregations where there is no one to put out the bins, it is the minister's job, and another situation where the minister came out of the vestry after seeing someone after the service who was upset, only to discover that everyone had gone home and she was left to count the offering, tidy up and lock up. These are not missional congregations.

Every day I give thanks for our folks. It's a standing joke that I don't have keys for the church, but that's because someone else takes on that role. We are almost unique in having willing volunteers to carry out lots of roles which enable me to do the work of ministry, and to give time for mission planning as well. God has plans for the future of East Kilbride Old Parish Church, so please keep mission planning in your prayers over the summer months.

Yours in love, *Anne*





The Coalburn Silver Band concert was a great success, with contributions from their Intermediate Band and the pupils from St Brides and St Andrews High Schools.

The pupils performed songs from their upcoming show 'We Will Rock You'.

The total raised for the Church after expenses was £ 476.10.

Many thanks to all the Team for their hard work in making this event so successful.

Also:-

Tickets are now available for the George Lindsay Band Concert to be held in the Glebe Street Hall on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of June the cost of the tickets is £5

It's a Bring your own Bottle (BYOB) and Bring your own Glass (BYOG).

Thanks. *Ken Ross* (Kirk Life Convener).

## The 'New Normal'



I think that for most of us, in the initial stages of the pandemic, as the restrictions meant that nearly all the activities and social events in the church ceased, we began to wonder if and when things might get back to "normal". Then, as the pandemic stretched out to months and then years, we started to think that maybe we would emerge to a "new normal".

The recent Kirk Session meeting reflected on some of the changes we made during the pandemic and whether some of them might be continued for a longer period. Members will all know that once services resumed we were still very constrained by mandatory requirements for social distancing, face coverings and hygiene so we adapted our arrangements for Communion services to cope with these requirements. We devised a simpler arrangement with the Minister alone at the Communion table and the individual elements being

set out in advance at individual seats for the congregation thus avoiding passing bread and wine hand-to-hand along the pews.

The Session reflected that these arrangements had worked quite well and that there was no theological barrier to continuing to serve Communion in this way. The Session also considered that some members may still feel uncomfortable if we immediately resumed the passing of elements hand-to-hand. The Session has therefore decided to retain this simpler style of Communion service, and this will be the arrangement for our June Communion and subsequent services.

Session has also agreed that since the easing of mandatory hygiene requirements from morning service in late March there had been no noticeable problems or issues with the congregation now permitted to use personal judgement on the matters of face coverings and social distancing. The area set aside in the west transept for members wishing to maintain social distancing, and the marking of these pews, will however be retained in the meantime.

Looking further ahead, the Session was updated on proposals for a programme of events planned to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our sanctuary in just over a year and a half. The aim will be to involve all of the church organisations and invitations to participate have now been sent out every one of our groups.

*Alistair Walker*—Session Clerk

Christian Aid Week



Once again, East Kilbride Old Parish Church has responded splendidly to the appeals of Christian Aid Week. We've had three main areas of fundraising, and all of them have been very worthwhile.

First of all, our regular **CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING**. This was held in the Glebe Street Hall on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May. It was a lovely morning, and



there were all kinds of stalls – jewellery, home baking, books, plants, bric-a-brac, and the wonderful smell of freshly-baked pancakes filled the hall. There was a good attendance of people and a **great total - £500 .50**. (The equivalent figure in May 2019, the last time we had a Christian Aid Coffee Morning, was £218). Well done, all the Stall holders and donors, and a very special thankyou to Evelyn Brownlie and her amazing team of helpers.

Next, the new **“MY MARATHON” GROUPS**. Since the advent of Covid, as we know, it has not been possible to do our normal “House-to-House” Collection, so last year, we tried a new project – doing a sponsored walk with donations being made online, through a “Just Giving” page. That proved successful, so this year, FIVE groups took part in a personal challenge called “My Marathon”. The walkers were Alistair and Val Walker, David and Lyn Kent, Andrew Brown and Family, Iain Shaw and Friends, and members of the Church Choir – Christine Tweedie, Isobel Glasgow, Fiona Anderson, Gillian Morris and Mary Smith. **Together they’ve covered a huge distance and raised the superb total of £2,055**. And there’s also Gift Aid to be added to that. So, very well done, everyone.

Then there are all the **DONATIONS**, made either through the Christian Aid Envelopes handed in at the Church, or sent directly to Des Laverty, our Congregational Treasurer, or given through the Christian Aid Boxes which people hand in regularly throughout the year. **These donations have come to the excellent total of £1,780**. This figure includes £62.50 which Des has claimed through Gift Aid. An additional figure of £112.50 will be claimed by Christian Aid from the Gift Aid slips from our Envelope donations. And the “My Marathon” Groups will have gathered a substantial amount of Gift Aid which Just Giving will process and pass on to Christian Aid directly.

**All of these elements together give us a global figure of £4,448.15**. That is a wonderful result and warmest thanks to everyone involved, including Diana Ramsey who decorated the Lounge Window with a Christian Aid Week display. Christian Aid is one avenue through which our Christian Faith is demonstrated and it’s good that we can show the love of Jesus in straightforward actions of personal help.

*Stewart Smith*

**Christian Aid**  
We believe in life before death

# Hazel Shaw



Hello everyone, I hope and pray you are all well. It is a great privilege to introduce myself to you as your soon to be Probationer candidate for ministry. Many of you will already have met me and know me as the other half to Iain Shaw, your Children, Youth and Families worker. I am very much looking forward to being part of your congregation, sharing in worship, learning from Anne and seeing how God continues to lead me in ministry.

For those who I haven't yet had the pleasure to meet, my name is Hazel and with Iain and our son Mark we live in Strathaven and have a black cockapoo called Alfie who is 5 years old but still has the energy of a puppy! Our daughter Laura is 23 and lives and works in Hereford as a secondary school teacher. Any holidays are generally spent visiting her. Mark has now completed his school education and is about to embark on further college studies with the long term goal of joining the Police force. I am a Candidate for Ministry and have recently successfully completed my BA Theology degree at the Highland Theological College in Paisley. I will graduate on 30<sup>th</sup> June this year and am delighted to have completed my academic studies for now.

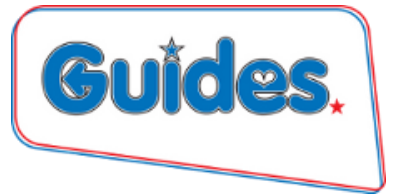
I have completed two previous placements with the Church of Scotland, the first in South Parish church in East Kilbride and most recently in St Mary's Parish church in Motherwell. Both these placements were wonderful experiences and I loved every moment, learning and getting to know members and those in the wider community. I am excited to be joining you all on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August to begin the final stage of my journey to ministry before ordination.

I am very grateful and excited about all that God has in store for me on this journey and look forward to seeing how I can continue to serve Him. There are many changes in the church just now and having a previous background in change management I am both aware of the challenges and excited by the opportunities. God's plans are greater than anything we can imagine and He calls us to action and to do our part. I hope in many ways I, together with all of you, can be part of an exciting and fulfilling plan for the Churches in East Kilbride.

I look forward to meeting you all and wish you every blessing.

Yours in Christ, *Hazel Shaw*

## 17th EK GUIDES



We have been very busy working on the 'Know Myself' & 'Be Well' programme themes/activities. Aside from badge work we made citrus bird feeders, outfits from 'trash fashion' (bin bags/tinfoil) and were chosen by Girlguiding UK to trial a new UMA (Unit Meeting Activity) which was very exciting.



The Leaders set the Guides two recycling challenges: the first was to upcycle a plastic bottle then secondly repurpose a larger item. The girls researched ideas, made plans and brought in the items they'd need (they weren't allowed to buy anything new just use what they had at home). We were very impressed with their results: lots of great recycling ideas inc. a bike wheel reused as a memo board, scraps of materials were recycled into a dog toy and who would have thought there were so many different uses for a plastic bottle!



We were fortunate to have Graeme, an independent wildlife rehabber & educator, take us on a Bat Walk in Calderglen Country park. The rain didn't dampen our enthusiasm as we listened to him talk about the different bat species, he showed us bat poo and amazed us all with his knowledge of bats! Three Guides, Amelia, Grace & Heidi made their Promise. We also celebrated the achievements of Ellie & Emily who were presented with their Guide Bronze award. Huge congratulations to them all.

A visit to Glen Esk Park gave us the opportunity to create some environmental art as part of Girlguiding Scotland's "Out and About" challenge. One patrol tied their design into the Take 2 in 2022 Scottish Chief Commissioner's team challenge (which we are currently working on) and the other themed their artwork on Girlguiding.



As part of the Scottish Chief Commissioner's challenge to get out and about & be visible in our community on 22nd May our Guides were joined by the 17th EK Rainbows & Brownies, 1st EK Brownies, & the 2nd East Main Rainbows for an afternoon of Litter Picking followed by a picnic.

Looking ahead to June, we will bring our term to a close with 3 exciting activities: a Mocktail making evening where the older Brownies will join us, then we have a visit to Café Ceramico and last but by no means least, we have arranged a fun 'Marvel Superhero' themed activity weekend, where the girls will be given the opportunity to build their skill set, try new crafts & learn new camping skills.

We hope our church family has a fun, and relaxing summer.

*Lynne, Louise, Rhian, Angela* Leadership Team









# The Prayer Diary



Marilyn Ross will take phone calls, texts or e-mails from people wishing the prayer group to pray for someone.

- 1st. Forgive me, Lord, when I am the unwitting cause of conflict among my family and friends.
- 2nd. Depending on you, Lord, is my strength.
- 3rd. Be with World Leaders in these anxious times.
- 4th. Help me find new ways to serve and be faithful in all I do.
- 5th. With you in my life, Lord, I am never alone.
- 6th. Lord, give strength and encouragement to all people living under bombardment in Ukraine.
- 7th. Father, help our government understand the hardships that the people are enduring.
- 8th. Lord, grant me courage as I go through this new day.
- 9th. Please come into my heart, Lord, and show me how to live for you.
- 10th. Touch the minds of the Russian people and guide them to make humanitarian choices.
- 11th. Father, today I will join the birds and sing in thanks for all the blessings in my life.
- 12th. We give thanks, Father, for the miracle of your love each day.
- 13th. Rejoice in the Lord and be glad; sing all who are upright in heart.
- 14th. Lord, I ask for a patient and willing heart.
- 15th. Thank you, Father, that you love us even when often we doubt you or let you down.
- 16th. I know, Lord, that your faithfulness is to all generations, not just my own.

17th.Father, guide me in all I do in your service.

18th.Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things.

19th.Lord, focus my energy on the important things. Let me never forget that you have all the answers.

20th.Lord, give us discipline to be consistent in our endeavours for your glory.

21st.Thank you, dear Father, for filling the heavens with proof of your mighty power.

22nd.You knew me before I was born, and you always will. Thank you.

23rd.Lord, you did all the losing so we could all be winners! What a privilege to be under your righteous rule.

24th.Father, comfort those who are worried about providing for their families at this difficult time.

25th.Lord, I lift in prayer, all those facing difficulties in their life.

26th.Rescue me, Lord, from evildoers and protect me from the violent, who have evil plans in their hearts.

27th.Father, let my life reflect your love.

28th.Today, Lord, is my opportunity to recognise those who need someone to listen to them.

29th.Without an anchor, a ship will drift. You are my anchor, Lord.

30th.You have always encouraged me, Father. Help me to encourage others.



## Iain Shaw's Monthly Update



### The Angus McConnell Memorial Football Tournament

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Angus McConnell Memorial Community 7 a side football tournament took place on Sunday afternoon 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022 from 2-5pm in Kirktonholme Park.

It was a great success and thankfully it remained dry for the football which was a miracle in itself as heavy rain preceded and proceeded the event. It was very well supported by other Churches, parents, families and members of our own congregation. We had 6 teams participate (Cambuslang, Claremont, St Brides, Trinity (Strathaven), St Marys Motherwell and ourselves) with around 75 primary school aged boys and girls having fun, playing together in a fair but competitive spirit and doing something to improve both their fitness and mental health – playing outside in the fresh air!!

We had 12 players in our team and they all played an equal amount of time on the pitch as we had rolling substitutes. We came in 4<sup>th</sup> position with 9 points with St Brides/St Kenneth's winning the competition for the second year in a row with 15 points.

At the end of the day, I hope we did Angus and his family proud and I am already planning and looking forward to next year's tournament.

### Sunday School

We meet at 11am in the Upper Hall at the Church and all children will be made most welcome. The current session ends on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June** when we will have our end of session all-age family service with the children fully participating in the service. We will then move to a summer Sunday School model for a few months before restarting again after the school summer holidays on



Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August.

I would like to place on record my thanks, especially to Jill Cowan, and all the helpers on our rota who have given faithfully of their time and talents for the benefit of our children.



### Children's Art (& Craft) Group

The children's arts and crafts group meet every **Thursday** afternoon from **4.30-6pm** in the **Glebe St Hall**. The current term ends on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June when we will have a break and restart on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August.

### Junior Badminton Group

This group is for children in Primary 4 and above at school and meets in the Glebe St Hall **every Friday afternoon, during school term, from 4-5.30pm**. The current term ends on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June when we will have our parent's afternoon thereafter, we will have a break and restart on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August.



### Messy Church

We had a Sporty Messy Church Session on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May which was very well attended and included a sports-based Bible reflection, traditional sporting activities e.g., bar football, table tennis, skipping, basketball and much more as well as arts & crafts, refreshments & a sports themed treasure hunt in the village area. Our next and final Messy Church of this session will take place on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June** when in conjunction with the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides we will host a **Queens Platinum Jubilee Street Party** event in the **Glebe St Hall from 1-5pm**. This is for the whole church family and you are all invited. Please bring your own picnic lunch – teas, coffees, juice and cakes will be provided. There will also be arts, crafts, games, sports as well as music and the opportunity to have a dance!!

## Summer Holiday Club 2022

Our 2022 Summer Holiday Club is entitled “The EKOPC Summer Olympics” - This will run every morning from 10am-12noon for all Primary school aged children from **Monday 8<sup>th</sup>- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August** –registration forms are now available you can pick up a paper copy from any of the church halls or electronically from the Church website [www.ekopc.org.uk](http://www.ekopc.org.uk)

Places are being limited and filling up very fast so if you want a child(ren) or grandkid or neighbour to attend don't delay complete and return a registration form today.

Thank you to everyone for all the tremendous help, encouragement and support I continue to receive in everything I seek to do for children, young people and families both within our congregation and in the wider community.

*Iain* (Youth & Families Worker) mobile 07912 295943 /

email [iainshaw18@gmail.com](mailto:iainshaw18@gmail.com)













# Help Needed!



## Church Facebook and Website

Would you like to find out about how you could help with getting information on to our church Facebook page or website, either as a 'reporter' on events, a photographer, or writer of 'copy'? And if you'd like to do even more than sending info in to us, and have experience of using Word, you could also have a go at typing information straight on to the relevant pages - we would be on hand to guide you till you got the hang of it. Conveniently, these tasks would be done from home at a time to suit you. Get in touch for more info by emailing [ekopcmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:ekopcmagazine@gmail.com) - there's no obligation to continue if you find it's not for you.

## Recording Services

On the other hand, if you have more of an interest in filming and sound recording, our 'Sound Desk' is the place for you. We have an experienced 'Sound & Vision' team now, trained by Austin, who take turns in live streaming / recording the church services. It would be good to have a couple of extra people learning how to do this - get in touch and we'll show you what's involved. No obligation if you decide it's not for you. Contact us via [ekopcmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:ekopcmagazine@gmail.com) or at the Church Office (279004) if you would like to know more. We'd love to hear from you!

*Christine Bayfield*





# 17th EK Brownies and Rainbows

## WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

**Sun 22nd May** - litter pick and picnic in the Village. All our guiding units were involved in this project along with the Rainbows and Brownies from the West Kirk. We have all been challenged by our Scottish Chief Commissioner to a series of challenges called Take 2 in 2022. The girls welcomed this opportunity to do something for our community and the environment. We hope you have noticed a difference as we collected an amazing 22 bags of litter, well done everyone (picture to follow).

**Sat 4th June Jubilee Celebration** - we hope you are looking forward to this event. The girls are busy decorating bunting for the fence at the Glebe St Hall, we hope you like it.

**Tues 14th June Woodland Adventures** - this is the final event for the current term. At the girls request we are heading back to K Woodlands for some fun and adventures

**FLOWER POWER** - we have been involved in numerous projects involving flowers and planting.

**Jubilee Garden Design** - the Brownies did a design for the Glebe St Hall Garden and all the designs are below. The winning entry was selected by our Church Family at the recent Christian Aid Coffee Morning. The winner was Emma and her design is below. We will be planting it out on Tuesday 31st May in time for the Jubilee celebration so wish us luck in making this happen. On the same night the girls will also be planting pots for residents in McKillop Gardens and some planters on the Main St.

Over the last few months the girls have been working for numerous badges including one specially designed for the Jubilee. This will be awarded to all our Garden designers.

As you can see we have been really busy over the few month's and it's been an absolute pleasure for us all to be back together again face to face. Before our new term starts back at the end of August we have one other important event, camp. We are going to Gowanpark or Cozieglen as its affectionately known from Fri 5th to Sun 7th Aug. Not sure who is the more excited the leaders or the girls.

On behalf of all the girls and leaders we hope to see you at the Jubilee Celebration on Sat 4th June but if not have a fabulous summer,

*Lorraine, Lynne, Vronne, Liz, Emma, Pauline &  
Christine Tweedie* (Brown Owl )



The litter Pickers with 22 bags of rubbish

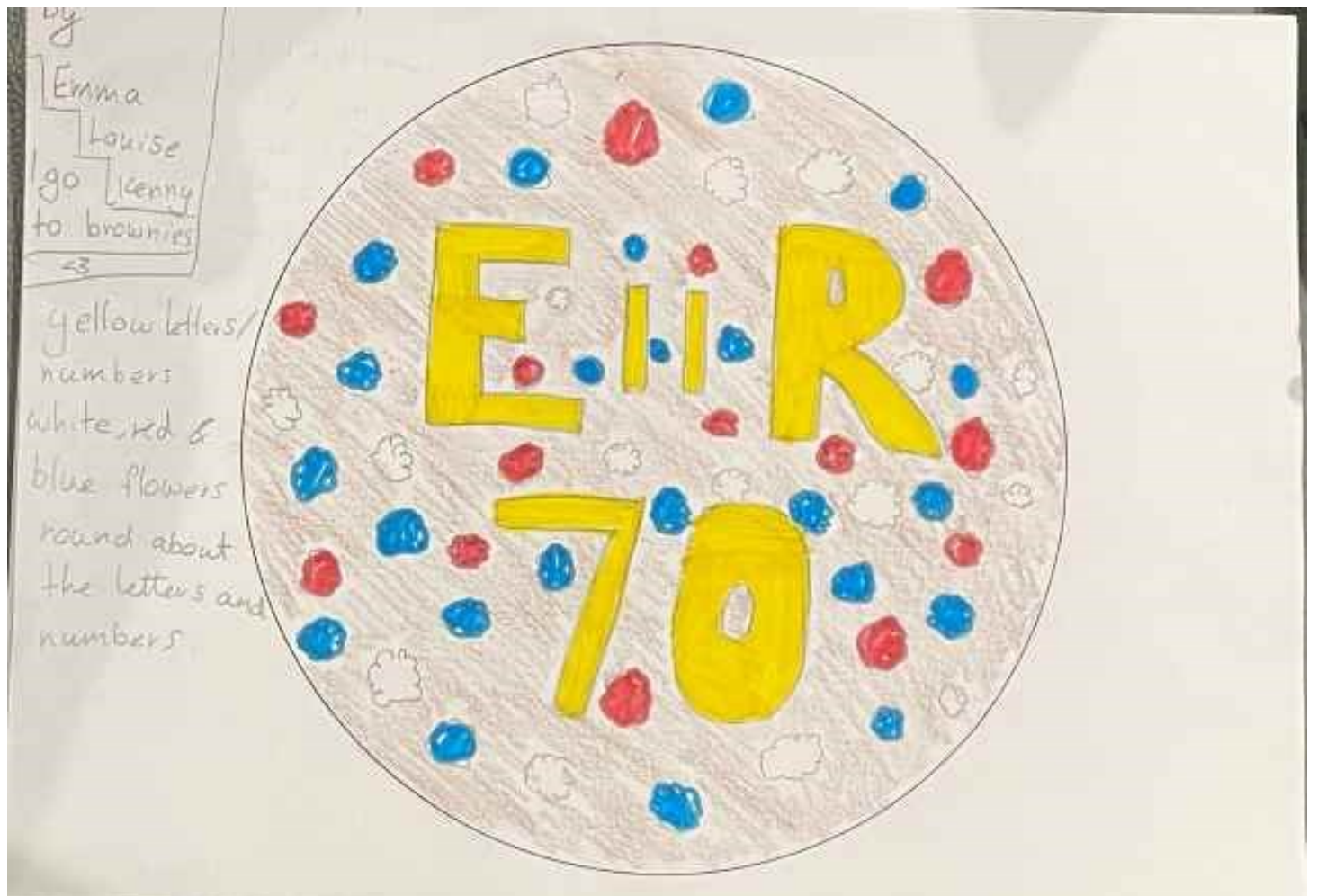




Montage of garden designs



Badges awarded



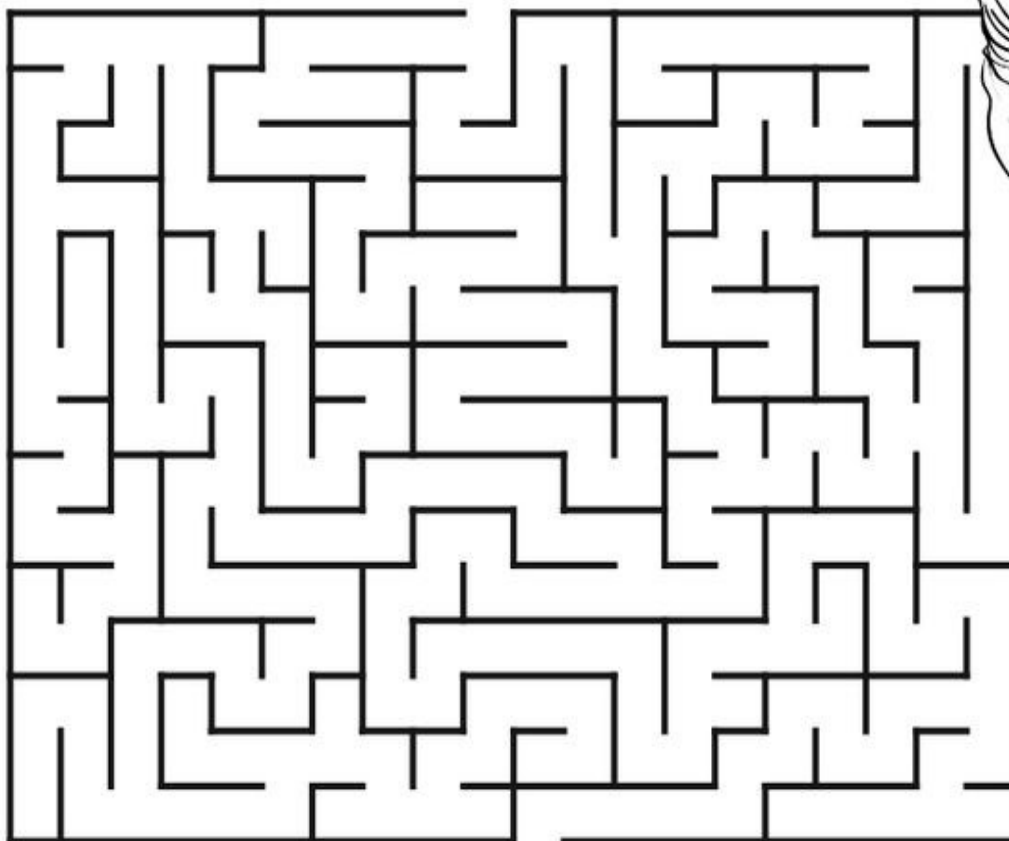
Winning Garden design: Emma

# THE ASCENSION MAZE

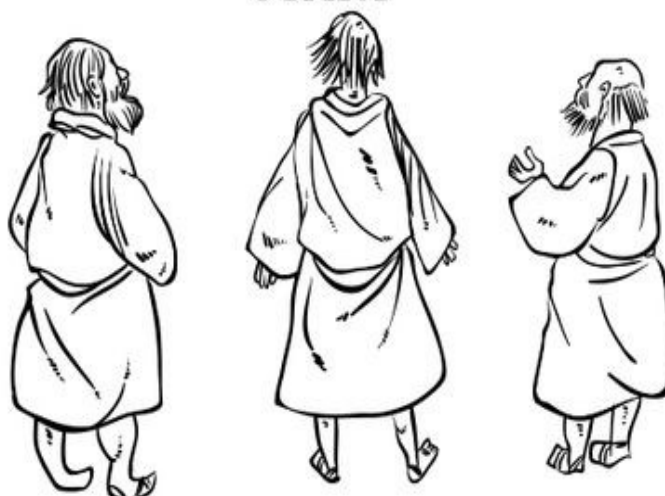


Guide the disciples to watch Jesus ascend to Heaven.

END



START



# Pastoral Register

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

Finlay Small

Catherine Mackie

Beth Clark

Tom Weir

Carol Fraser

George Dyker

## Baptisms "Let the children come to me."

Milana McGhee

## Weddings "And the greatest of these is love."

Graeme King to June Dawson



# EKO Submissions

If you would normally hand write/type material and give it to the editor would you please phone me and dictate it. My numbers are below.

The deadline for submitting all material for the September edition of the EKO is:

Wednesday 24th August

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

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<b>Youth &amp; Families Worker</b>	<b>Iain Shaw</b> <b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:iainshaw18@gmail.com">iainshaw18@gmail.com</a></b>	
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<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Mr Ronnie Niven</b>	
<b>Roll Keeper</b>	<b>Mr Robert Cossar</b>	
<b>Gift Aid</b>	<b>Mr Des Laverty</b>	
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