

# **EKO**

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

**MAY 2025**

**EDITION 637**

# CHURCH CALENDAR



## MAY

Sunday 4th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 11th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 18th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 25th	Morning Worship	11am

## JUNE

Sunday 1st	Sacrament of Communion	11am
	Short Communion Service	3pm
Thursday 5th	Communion Service	12 noon
	Light Lunch	12.30pm

# FLOWER CALENDAR



In all the Sundays in May the flowers will be provided by the Flower Fund.

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

The front page art comes from 'Wild Studio' based in the Philippines under the category of 'ASCENSION'

## PASTORAL LETTER



Later this month a new moderator will be installed at the annual General Assembly. She is Rev Rosie Frew who is currently a parish minister in the borders area. I don't particularly know Rosie but reading an interview with her in Life and Work magazine, I found out more about her life. She has served in parishes in Fife, has been a presbytery clerk, and has served on various national committees.

What is found most interesting in her journey of faith, was how much her early life was influenced by the local church. Like many people of my generation, her social life revolved around the church. One of her memories is of delivering the Life and Work magazine. In addition to Sunday school, there were the uniformed organisations. She moved on as a teenager into the youth fellowship, and through the youth fellowship became involved in ecumenical events for teenagers, where denomination wasn't important, being a Christian was.

It caused me to reflect on our work with children here. Gone are the days of the big Sunday schools where children attend every week. Life is simply not like that anymore because there are so many other things out there clamouring for our young people's attention. Sports clubs are on a Sunday morning, birthday parties are on Sunday mornings, so we have to adapt ourselves to changing times.

I am proud of the work we have been doing with children over the last few years. It hasn't always been easy, but it has been so rewarding to see the children amongst us grow. Many of our children attend St Kenneth's primary school, so denomination isn't important, being fellow Christians is. We just never know, there might be a future moderator in our midst.

Yours in love,

*Anne Paton*



## MOVING ON- IAIN SHAW

In 2016 the Kirk Session commissioned a research project to look at ways to increase our commitment to the fabric of community life, particularly regarding children and families. The resulting report was presented to, and accepted by, the Kirk Session in February 2017. The post of Youth & Families worker was established, and the first appointment was made in August 2018.

We were extremely fortunate in the appointment of Iain Shaw whose personality, skills and enthusiasm fitted our requirements perfectly. Iain has been the driving force behind a host of different events and activities, some regular such as Messy Church, Summer Club and the Angus McConnell Tournament, and some “one-offs” such as Quizzes, Beetle Drives and Treasure Hunts. During Covid, Iain was a key player in managing our Helping Hands initiative which took shopping and prescriptions and offered companionship to our housebound members.

Since Iain’s appointment and through the different activities Iain set up, our church has engaged with many, many families with no previous church connection, and the congregation will have seen many varied, noisy, and sometimes slightly chaotic, Family Services with children singing “clap along” songs, acting out short scenes, running about, reading the lesson and reading prayers. All of this is consistent with the objectives set out by the Kirk Session.

After seven years Iain will be leaving us at the end of June to take up full-time employment with a company in Paisley. As you may know Iain moved to Paisley from Strathaven after his wife Hazel was ordained as Minister at St George’s Paisley. Iain will take with him our deep appreciation for his time with us, for his Christian commitment to our church, and our very best wishes for the future to him and his family.

*Alistair Walker*—Session Clerk



## **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK : 11TH-17TH MAY**

This year, 2025, is Christian Aid's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday and by the time you read this, our programme will already have started. Here is the story:-



**Anne Daniels and her husband Peter** have begun their **80 lap Sponsored Walk** around the James Hamilton Heritage Loch. They began on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April and will finish on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May. People are welcome to keep them company for a lap or two, and it would be good if there was a welcome party waiting at the finishing line on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Support for the Walk is by donation on-line via Anne's Just Giving Page. We are encouraged to let our own relatives and friends know, so that they can give support to Christian Aid too. Open your Google page and type in "**Anne Daniels is fundraising for Christian Aid**" and you will reach Anne's Just Giving page. Then make the donation.

The Week itself will begin on **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May with the Morning Service led by Anne, our Minister.** **Gift Envelopes** will be given out along with the EKO, and will also be available at the Church. These can be returned any time during May. If you discover that you have two Envelopes, pass the extra one to a relative, a friend or a neighbour.

Also given out at the service will be a **Devotional Booklet, entitled "Abounding Hope"**. We can use this each day throughout the Week, for our own thoughts and prayers.

Then, on the last day of the Week, we will hold our **Big 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Coffee Morning**, in the Glebe Street Hall, from 10am till 12 noon. **Evelyn Brownlie and her very Energetic Team** will be ready to welcome us. Pass the word!

One last thing. Christian Aid is inviting Churches to plant a tree, this week,

called a "Tree of Hope". Arrangements are being made for this to happen and possibly, by the time the Week comes round, we will have the details. *Stewart Smith*



## Christian Aid 80th Birthday Celebrations

We are holding a coffee morning to celebrate the 80th birthday of Christian Aid on Saturday 17th May at 10am until 12 noon. There will be tea, coffee and cakes as well as the usual stalls selling woollies, arts & crafts goods, surprise 'goody-bags' and hand-made cards.

Because of this event, there will be no Thursday Coffee Morning on the 15th May but will return again on Thursday 22nd May.

Please come along to our special day!

*Evelyn Brownlie*



**THE CRAFT GROUP**

The Wednesday Morning Craft Group meets in the lounge weekly from 10am until noon. Everyone is welcome.

On Saturday 17th May 2025 in the Glebe Street Hall 10am until noon, we will have a stall to support the Christian Aid Coffee morning.

Look out for crochet and knitted mats, washcloths, thinking of you sacks, hugs, stitched notebook covers, pocket hankie packs, Aran cardigans and jumpers, baby knitted items, microwave bowl heat protectors, etc.

Thank you for your support, *Jill Cowan*



# 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.

## MAY

- 1st. God of peace, we pray for those who suffer because of violence and conflict. Make us a people of peace, bringing hope to our wounded world.
- 2nd. Lord, help me learn from my mistakes, and give me the confidence to go on.
- 3rd. Dear God, thank you for this new day and all the blessings it brings. Guide my steps and grant me the strength and wisdom to face whatever challenges may come my way.
- 4th. Father, you reach out to us in love. Open our hearts to the needs of others and make us generous in our response.
- 5th. Father, help me leave a smile where there was not one before.
- 6th. Jesus, you know what it is to be betrayed and sold. We hold in your love all victims of trafficking. Inspire us to work for an end to modern slavery.
- 7th. Compassionate God, you understand what it is to be human, and are with us in times of suffering. May we be witnesses to your great love for the world revealed in the Cross.
- 8th. Thank you, God, for always being by my side, and watching over me.
- 9th. Lord, be with all who live in areas of conflict and all who feel abandoned and alone.
- 10th. Thank you, Father, for answering my unspoken prayers.
- 11th. Thank you, Father, for being my refuge, my strength, and my guide. When I do not have the words, You understand my heart.

- 12th. Never let me forget, Lord, that some challenges are a blessing in disguise.
- 13th. Lord, I know you have the best plans and arrangements, and I know that every challenge, difficulty, and problem in life is You shaping me and making me stronger.
- 14th. Lord, I know you listen to my prayers. Give me patience to wait for Your answer.
- 15th. Dear Father, thank You for my family. Thank you for my life and for all the opportunities you have given me. Help me not to get so distracted that I forget how blessed I am.
- 16th. Father, today I put my future in Your hands.
- 17th. Lord, in moments of challenge and decision, attune my heart to the whispering of your wisdom.
- 18th. We give thanks for all those giving, acting, and praying during Christian Aid Week. May each of us seek to serve our global neighbours.
- 19th. Thank you, Lord, for waking me up today. Help me always to appreciate how fortunate I am to have You in my life.
- 20th. Lord, help me become the person you created me to be.
- 21st. Father, though I cannot see the meaning of everything right now, please grant me faith to trust that You are in control of all things.
- 22nd. Thank you, Lord, for your patience, understanding and love.
- 23rd. Loving Lord, as I undertake ordinary and unnoticed tasks, gift me with simple joy.
- 24th. Lord, Service is a part of Christian life. Help me never to hide behind an excuse.
- 25th. God, we pray for the leaders of our world, guide their hearts and minds so they may have integrity when they make decisions. Inspire them and bless them with vision to move our world towards unity and peace.
- 26th. In our daily lives, help us to think "What would Jesus Do"?
- 27th. Thank you for all the people in my life who have added, and continue to add, to my life.
- 28th. Loving Father, we come before you seeking forgiveness for our many sins. We have spoken unkind words, polluted the oceans, and neglected to care for this wonderful world we live in.
- 29th. Father God, as your children, may we grow into your likeness, filled with compassion and desiring justice.
- 30th. Help me, Lord, identify what is worthwhile, and remember that while it may be difficult, it does not mean it should not be done.
- 31st. Dear God, you have blessed me in so many ways, and I am truly grateful. I know your plans are greater than my understanding, so I ask you to guide me and strengthen my faith.



## JUNE

- 1st. Father, embolden us to live out our calling, and put faith, hope, and love into action.
- 2nd. Father, for all those fighting stigma, I ask that they receive the encouragement needed to stay strong on their recovery journeys.
- 3rd. Father, I want to thank you for being with me in my highs and in my lows.
- 4th. Dear Lord, I thank you for another day. Guide my steps, strengthen my heart, and grant me wisdom to make the right decisions.
- 5th. Father God, teach me when to speak and when to listen, when to ponder and when to share.

### HISTORY CORNER



#### History Corner: Ministers during Covenanting Times – Part 2

Following the death of Patrick Sharpe in 1651 **Thomas Charteris** was Kilbride's new minister. He joined the Protesting Party in 1651 and under the patronage of Oliver Cromwell was placed in Kilbride in 1654. Thomas Charteris was born in 1626 and graduated from Edinburgh University becoming Minister of Stonehouse Parish before his transfer to Kilbride. On a Saturday evening in June 1656, Thomas was struck by his horse which had been grazing in the Kirkyard and died the following day. He left a widow, Anna Hamilton and a young daughter Anna Charteris who inherited the lands of Mains of Blantyre or Orchard Neuk on 20<sup>th</sup> November 1675.

Anna Hamilton had married Thomas Charteris in 1650, She was the daughter of John Hamilton of Boghall and widow of Alexander Montgomery of Kirktonholme.

After the death of Thomas Charteris, Anna's third marriage was to Captain William Govan of Kirkton.

In 1656 **John Burnet** became Kilbride's next Minister. He was born in 1616 and graduated from Edinburgh University in 1637. He was tutor to the family

of David, the Earl of Wemyss who described John Burnet as “ *one of the most precious young men that was ever in my family.*” Rev<sup>d</sup> Burnet was one of the most respected and outstanding ministers of the time, he was a supporter of the Covenant but advised patience. He married Eupham Dundas and had several children. With the return of Charles II in 1660 Episcopacy was re-established. For supporting the Covenant and refusing to abandon his faith John Burnet together with approximately 270 ministers were deprived of their charges.

John Burnet died 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1673.

Ref:

*“East Kilbride The History of Parish and Village” by Thomas Eric Niven.*

*“Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae: the Succession of Ministers in the Church of Scotland”*

*“East Kilbride Old Parish Church: A History of the Christian Faith in East Kilbride” by Bill Niven.*

*Fiona Dawson*



THE GUILD

The Summer Guild will meet in the Glebe Street Hall on Wednesday 7th May from 2-3pm for tea and coffee and a chat and a wee surprise. All welcome



*Mary Smith*

## **KIRK LIFE**



Just one date for your diary before the summer break:

The Coalburn Silver Band Concert will take place in the Church on Friday 30th May at 7.30 pm.

Tickets are priced £7, concessions £5 and children under 16 go free.

Tickets will become available in May.

*Catherine Selfridge*

## **IAIN'S MONTHLY UPDATE**

### [Children, Youth & Families Update \(May 25\)](#)

As we near the end of another session and travel towards the school summer holidays, which are only around 6 weeks away, we continue with our programme of activities and events for children, young people and families.

I encourage you to pass all this information to any family members, friends or neighbours who you think may be interested in joining us.

I saw this quote from John Wesley recently, which in my opinion totally and succinctly sums up the life of a Christian – I hope you can see yourself in these words:

Do all the good you can,  
By all the means you can,  
In all the ways you can,  
In all the places you can,  
At all the times you can,  
To all the people you can,  
As long as you can.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

THE ANGUS MCCONNELL MEMORIAL CHURCH & COMMUNITY FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT – Sunday 8th June from 2-4pm at Kirktonholme Stadium West Mains Rd East Kilbride. This is our 5th event in memory of our dear friend Angus – we have 9 teams so far able to join us for this fun afternoon of football, fun & fellowship. Come along and support our team and be encouraged by almost 100 children (boys & girls) having a great time playing football.



SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB 2025 – The provisional week for the 2025 holiday club is Monday 4th – Friday 8th August every morning from 10am until 12noon. The leaders will meet shortly to finalise the dates, theme and programme for this year's club. Registration forms and more details will be made available soon.

## RECENT EVENTS

FAMILY BEETLE DRIVE – this exciting fast paced intergenerational event took place on 22 March in the Glebe St Hall and in the children and young people category.



We had joint winners - Millie Ashelby & Naomi McLeod and in the adult category our winner was Morag Devennie – congratulations to all of them – it was ironic that her husband Charlie received the wooden spoon for accumulating the lowest overall score over the course of the event.

**EASTER SUNDAY HYBRID MESSY CHURCH** - this event was held on Easter Sunday (20th April) from 10am until noon in the Church and Church halls in Montgomery Street.

From 10am until 10.50am we had Easter arts and crafts stations in the upper hall, an animated version of the Easter story was played in the lounge and an Easter treasure hunt was held around the Church grounds. We also had a refreshments area in the lower hall. Then at around 10.50am we all went into the church for the 11am Easter Sunday all age service where several young people took part in the Bible readings, prayers and also in the “Do you believe it” Easter reflection based on the Guinness book of records.

Thanks to everyone who helped at or supported either or both of the above events.

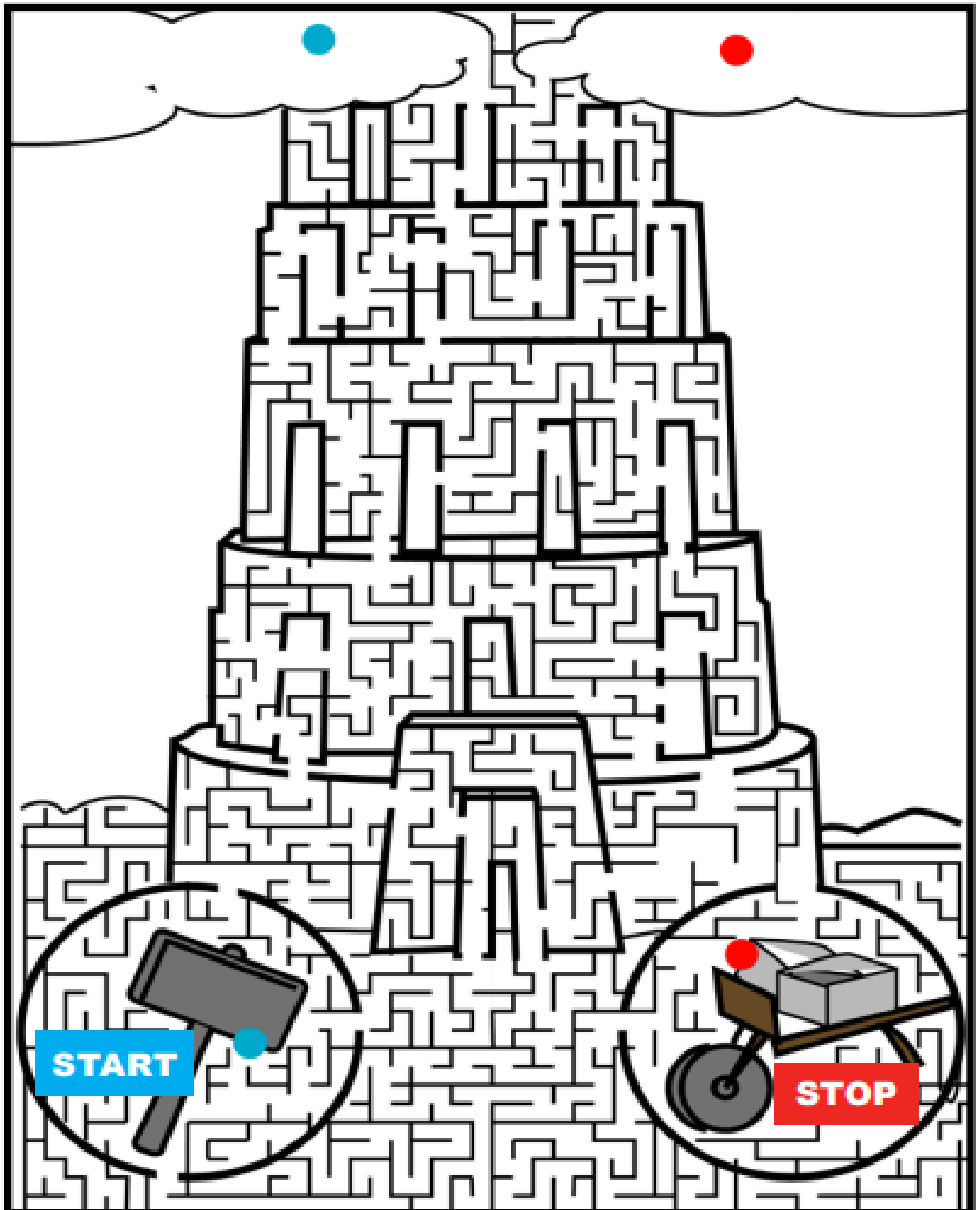
Thank you for all your encouragement, support, prayers and friendship – I really appreciate it so very much.

*Iain* (Youth & Families Worker) mobile 07912 295943 / email iain-shaw18@gmail.com



# Tower of Babel Double Maze

There are two separate mazes to complete here. Help the workers take the tools from the bottom of the tower to the top. Then take the bricks from the bottom to the top.



## PASTORAL REGISTER

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

Jane Gilmour  
Moira Whelan  
Williamina Martin  
Margaret Lafferty



## EKO SUBMISSIONS

The dates for submission of material for the June EKO are: for hand/type-written copy **Sunday 18th May** and the deadline for submitting electronic copy is:- **Wednesday 21st May.**

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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