

EKO

The Magazine for
East Kilbride
Old Parish Church



NOVEMBER 2021

EDITION 601

Church Calendar



Our church services continue to take place in the church and be broadcast over the internet and through Facebook.

The church's capacity has been increased by the removal of restricted seating in the central area downstairs. Elsewhere the restrictions are in place for those who still want to distance. Face coverings are still to be worn although singing is now allowed even through the face covering.

If you are attending the church you must still book in through Louise since track and trace is still in operation.

NOVEMBER

Sunday 7th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 14th	Remembrance Service	<u>11.30am</u>
Sunday 21st	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 28th	1st Sunday in Advent	11am

DECEMBER

Sunday 5th	2nd Sunday in Advent	11am
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Pastoral Letter



It was a delight to see the children in the church both on Harvest Thanksgiving and a couple of weeks later at their own prizegiving. We presented the children with bibles, and in my welcome to them, I asked them whether they watched the news on television, and it was no surprise when they replied that they didn't and when pressed further, their reason was that there was very little good news around. I'm sure we can all agree with them.

In Glasgow we are currently preparing for the COP26 conference on climate change, and we all know that action is urgently required there. I urge you to read the related articles in this magazine. It is the responsibility of us all to do whatever we can to reverse the effects of climate change. Our children are worried, we should be too.

Another area of increasing concern is the situation unfolding in Afghanistan. The withdrawal of troops has seen the country spin out of control, and the latest news article I saw included footage of parents trying to sell a child to buy food for their other children who were starving. It's unimaginable.

November is a time for remembrance, when we remember the sacrifice of people laying down their lives for the good of us all. When we look around the world this November, we must ask ourselves whether we are truly worthy of the sacrifice people made on our behalf. Do we see a world that they can be proud of? A world so full of bad news?

Well, here is the good news. The word "Gospel" literally means "Good News" and what we did on that prizegiving Sunday was to give each of the children connected to our church some good news. That good news is that God is still active in the world, and he is still making all things new. The good news is that God loves us and will never desert us, even in these times of trouble. In the midst of the difficulties in our world, Christians are still at the forefront of change and of hope. Above all, we are surrounding the world in prayer, and we know that prayer makes a difference.

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you or forsake you" (Deuteronomy 31:6)

Yours in love *Anne Eaton*



Challenging Times



We have just about come to terms with the continuing restrictions that affect our involvement in the church including our morning services with compulsory facemasks and organisational activities without tea and biscuits. As we have all heard repeatedly from the pulpit, these rules are not of our making and we are simply using our discretion, and in the interests of everyone, to implement the requirements fairly and proportionately. We are well aware that other places including restaurants and night clubs, and indeed some churches, are operating differently but for the time being our Kirk Session is continuing to take a more cautious approach. Despite the restrictions, ever so gradually organisations and activities have resumed, and church life is starting to pick up again.

Over the past year and a half, the work of the Kirk Session has been focussed on local matters such as the induction of new elders; buildings maintenance, repair, and re-decoration; installation of audio-visual and security systems; installation of a new organ and management of church life within the legal and advisory constraints imposed by the pandemic.

The Kirk Session is now required to turn attention to much wider matters resulting from decisions taken by the church nationally to reduce the number of ministers across Scotland. In the case of East Kilbride, this will mean a reduction from 9 to 6 in the number of parish ministers. As a result, every congregation in the town will have to consider how it will fit in to a new structure involving possibilities such as union, linked charges, and team ministry. The Session will also need to consider the future of our church building and how it could be adapted to extend its presently limited use to a wider range of activities which might strengthen the case for it to be retained as being

being “essential” to our role within the community.

All this is happening at the same time as the amalgamation of Hamilton, Lanark and Falkirk Presbyteries into a single unit effective from 1 January 2022. As our church will become part of a much larger amalgamated presbytery this underlines the need for our Kirk Session to have a clear vision of what the future might look like for our congregations and others within the town.

These are really big, important issues for the Kirk Session to discuss as they will be pivotal in shaping our church and congregation for future generations. For many elders these issues may well be the most significant matters they will be involved in during their entire eldership.

Alistair Walker - Session Clerk

The logo for 'Kirk Life' features the words 'Kirk Life' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The text is centered within a rectangular area that has a light blue, textured background and a soft blue glow effect around its edges.

The names for the Christmas Card need to be in for the 10/11/21 at the latest. Donations to cover the cost of production are always greatly appreciated.

There are three ways to donate to the card

1. Bank Transfer (for Bank transfers please contact Des Laverty)
2. Cheque to Des with Christmas Card marked on the back.
3. An envelope in the offering plate marked with your name and Christmas Card.



Also the Kirk Life Team is putting together a 2022 Calendar with the assistance of David Kent and Louise Reilly. The cost of the calendar has still to be decided.

All going well they should be ready for Christmas so they can be used as a wee extra for present.

Thank you. *Ken Ross* (Kirk Life Convenor).

The Church Christmas Card

Ho...ho...ho...yes folks it's that time of year again !

As with last year the continuing restrictions mean that we need to adapt our usual arrangements for collating names for the church Christmas Card so we'll simply use the same arrangements that worked reasonably well last year.

If you have email could you please send your names for the card to the church office at ekopc.office@btconnect.com ; if you don't have email could you phone the details to the office on 01355 279004. The office is still officially closed but both emails and the phone answering service are checked regularly.

Louise will add names to the card as they come in. If you want to double-check that we have received your email or you want to confirm that we have the correct spelling please phone the office and we'll get back to you.

Your donations can be made by either bank transfer or by cheque. For bank transfer either Des Lavery (01698 422638) or I will give you the account details. Cheques should be made payable to East Kilbride Old Parish Church and forwarded to Des at 36 Bourtree Road, Hamilton ML3 8PT. In both cases, please make sure that your donation is identified as being for the Christmas Card, either in the Reference section of a bank transfer, or on the reverse of a cheque.

The closing date for adding names to the card is **10 November**.

Alistair Walker - Session Clerk

Pilgrimage

On Tuesday 19th October Ian Stewart and I travelled into Glasgow to meet keen long distance walkers Bill and Christine Jack at Nelson's Column within Glasgow Green.

The purpose of our trip was to join Bill and Christine on the last leg of their 150 mile pilgrimage as this was the inaugural walk of "Kentigern Way" that the couple had set off to complete some 12 days previously.



This pilgrimage was a concept borne from a conversation Bill had 4 years ago with their then minister of Bothwell Parish Church Rev. Jim Gibson upon his return with parishioners from walking part of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela pilgrimage in Spain.

This conversation lit a fire within Bill and he and Christine began researching the life of Kentigern/ Mungo and established the link in Hoddum (Dumfries and Galloway) where Kentigern was gifted land and established an episcopal seat, both Bill and Christine plotted a route from Annan Old Parish Church to Glasgow Cathedral.

We were joined by other parishioners from various churches who had too come to wish them well. Prior to setting off prayer was led by Rev. David Whiteman minister of Annan Old Parish and it was fitting that he was present at the end of their pilgrimage as he was at their outset.

The weather was very kind to us as we set off on the short walk towards Glasgow Cathedral and Ian and I learnt that Bill's mother moved to East Kilbride in 1952 and most probably attended East Kilbride Old Parish Church.

Within no time at all we arrived at the Cathedral and Bill and Christine were met and welcomed by Rev. Mark Johnstone Cathedral minister.

Rev. Johnstone welcomed us all and called us to Worship on this dedication Service of “Kentigern Way”

The Lord Provost of Glasgow Philip Braat within his civic capacity offered his words of welcome to which Bill suitably replied and spoke of the Christian fellowship he and Christine encountered on their pilgrimage and the breathtaking Scottish lowland countryside they experienced in all its magnificent autumnal hues.

The reading was delivered by Robert Hynd Moderator of Glasgow Presbytery and the service was closed in prayer by Rev. Johnstone, we thereafter retired to the Upper Chapter House for refreshments and thereafter led by a marvelous and knowledgeable guide Bill and Christine completed their pilgrimage by arriving at the tomb of St. Mungo.

On our journey back to East Kilbride both Ian and I remarked that today was a fabulous day and we felt proud to be part, albeit in a very small way and prouder still to be representing East Kilbride Old Parish Church.

Mark Brown.

For further information pertaining to “Kentigern Way” please visit

<http://kentigernway.com/index.html>

For further information pertaining to Pilgrimage walks within Scotland please visit

<https://www.sprf.org.uk/index.html>



Prayer Diary

The prayer group is now meeting after the service on Sundays. Please put your prayer requests in the boxes provided. There is a box downstairs and one upstairs. You can still text me on 07443503142 or email marionled-die@gmail.com if that suits you better. *Marion Leddie*

The Lord will fight for you, you need only to be still.

4th. Pray for everyone affected by the situation in Afghanistan.

5th. What a blessing Lord, to know that you see me, hear me and walk with me.

6th. We pray for all who suffer from mental illness.

7th. My cup runneth over.

8th. Help us Father to look after our planet and all the creatures who live on it.

9th. Time is your gift to me Lord, help me to use it wisely.

10th. Pray for the UK's energy crisis that solutions can be found.

11th. Lord, put a few Angels in our paths now and again.

12th. On Remembrance Day we hold up all those who lost loved ones during wars.

13th. Father we give thanks that your love has no exceptions.

14th. Pray for those on low incomes as the Universal Credit payments are reduced.

15th. On Remembrance Sunday we pray for all military who are currently in service all over the world.

16th. Even when I whisper you hear my prayer, thank you Lord. We pray for people who will be unemployed now that furlough has ended.

17th. In the tiny petal of a flower that grew from a tiny pod is the miracle of all creation.

18th. Thank you, Lord, for our supportive church family.

19th. Please bless and heal all who are sick and give them the strength to carry on.

20th. Thank you, Lord for being my rock.

21st. Be with us Lord as we strive to be more appreciative of your world.

22nd. Lord, thank you for your wisdom and understanding and strength.

23rd. Pray that people will continue to use common sense when dealing with Covid issues in order to keep everyone safe.

24th. You are my shepherd, I am safe in your care.

25th. Remind me each day, that if I journey in faith I don't need a passport.

26th. Thank you, Lord for your Word which sustains us.

27th. Your name endures for ever.

28th. On this first Sunday of Advent, we pray for peace in our world.

29th. With your guidance Lord no task is too big or small.

30th. On St. Andrews Day we pray for peace, hope and love in Scotland.

DECEMBER

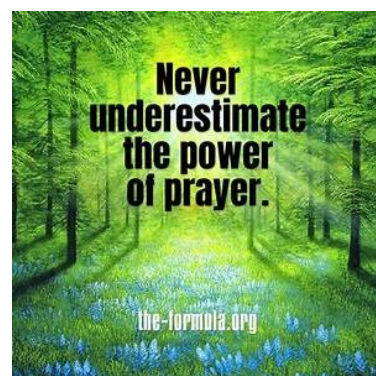
1st. Lord, guide our church elders in the work they do for our church.

2nd. Lord, be with all those in Afghanistan without homes and food. Give them hope.

3rd. Dear Lord, we pray for those people at home in distress over the effects of the pandemic. Give them hope and peace.

4th. Lord, thank you for everything we have but take for granted. Teach us to value everything we have when others have to do without.

5th. Lord, reach out to humanity today to those without faith and help them understand the power and the glory of the Kingdom of God.



Life and Work Magazine

It is that time of year again when I have to advise 121 George Street of the number of copies of the Life and Work Magazine we require for 2022. This is if you order your magazine through the Church. The cost this year has not changed and is £36.00 for the year's subscription. Unfortunately the Church no longer receives a discount which was passed to the subscriber.

In this respect I should be obliged if you would notify the undersigned by telephone on 01355 249343 if you still wish to renew or not renew your subscription or maybe you would like to subscribe for the first time. I will be delighted to hear from you.

COP26 Special Supplement

Life and Work have produced a FREE four-page COP26 Special Supplement available now at <https://www.lifeandwork.org/resources/cop26-special-supplement>. The purpose of this publication is to enable congregations to engage before, during and after COP26 and also signpost resources.

Also, the November issue of the magazine published today has a focus on COP26 and Remembrance. Anyone that is not a subscriber and interested in this particular issue can purchase a single print or digital copy at <https://www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe>.

Norma Denman

Life and Work Co-ordinator.



Remembrance - Erskine

“ Covid 19 rules are still in place so just like last year anyone wishing to donate to Erskine can do so by sending a cheque to:-

Des Lavery

36, Bourtree Road

Hamilton

ML3 8PT

Please make cheques payable to EK Old Parish Church and endorse back of cheque “ Erskine”.

Thanks to all

Douglas Allan



Update from Iain Shaw

Family Service – Harvest Thanksgiving - Sunday 10th October

We had 12 children and their families attend the Harvest Thanksgiving Family Service. The children participated in the service by producing three excellent Harvest themed posters which were on display in the Church during the service and also the subsequent Sunday morning, we had five of the children / young people read the Bible lessons (Craig, Lucy & Kaja) and Inola and Charlotte read a Harvest poem, and we sang the well-known hymn: “Who put the colours in the rainbow”. I hope the congregation enjoyed and were blessed to have the children and their families join them in the service.

Prize Giving Service – Sunday 24th October

Twenty-six children / young people were presented with an age-appropriate Bible during the service on 24th October in recognition of their loyalty, dedication and achievements during the past 18 months of the Covid pandemic. A further seventeen who couldn't attend the service that morning will receive their Bible at the first opportunity.

Sunday School – Online and In-person

In-Person Sunday School

11am until around 11.45am, Upper Hall at the Church.

All welcome.

~~**'Zoom' Online Sunday School**~~

~~**9am for around 45mins**~~

~~**All welcome**~~

~~**Text Iain on 07912 295943 for Zoom joining code**~~



We are currently using a teaching resource called Spill the Beans which has a definitive Scottish Flavour to it, both in content and contributors and each session has a mix of music, puzzles, quizzes, games, arts & crafts, a sharing time, prayer, and Bible story all linked to the theme for the session.

~~We have both options each week – You don't have to choose; you can come to both.~~

Art Group

The group continues to meet on a Thursday afternoon from 4.30-6pm in our Glebe St Hall and it is going well. We have around 20 primary school-aged

children registered & a group of dedicated volunteers & young leaders helping out. Our average weekly attendance has been 18 and judging by the noise, laughter, smiling faces as well as the outstanding arts and crafts produced the children are having a great time. We held our first Art Group Halloween Party the last Thursday of October which was a great success with all our activities for that session having a Halloween theme. We are currently planning our Winter / Advent session which hopefully, restrictions allowing, will include a Christmas

mas



East Kilbride Old Parish Church

Children's Art Group



party.

Thursday afternoons from 4.30-6pm in EKOPC Glebe St
Church Hall commencing Thursday 19th August
Cost £2 per session per child

All Primary School aged children welcome:

snack & all materials provided.

To register to attend please email

lainshaw18@gmail.com or text 07912 295943

Sadly, it has been decided that, unless the current restrictions relax sufficiently to allow us to continue safely, we have postponed the following, possibly until the new year :

- *Messy Church,*
- *Family Film Afternoons*
- *The start of our new P5-P7 Youth Group and other planned new initiatives and*
- *Monthly Family fun events (e.g., the Family Beetle Drive scheduled for October)*

A Plea for Help

If you or you know of anyone who would be interested in helping out at any of the above events / activities once they are able to restart, please let me know and I will arrange to speak to them and provide more information. This will not be a lifetime commitment but if enough people come forward, we can operate a rota system to suit the needs / commitments of any interested person(s).

Please keep all the children, young people & their families in your thoughts and prayers. *Jain* (Children, Youth & Families Worker)

mobile 07912 295943 / email iainshaw18@gmail.com

Shoebox Appeal 2021

With much regret and sadness, there will be no shoebox appeal at EKOPC this year. As we watch World events from the comfort of our own homes it is apparent the need for help and support is greater than ever. If you would like to make a donation to this worthwhile cause please send it direct to Blythswood Care details below. So what do Blythswood do

- Blythswood is committed to long-term care projects, enabling disadvantaged children and young people to fulfil their potential through EDUCATION
- We provide practical help for people in their COMMUNITY to give them opportunities to provide for themselves.
- Communicating the life-bringing message of the GOSPEL of the good news of Jesus Christ is the underlying motivation in all that we do

Christine Tweedie

6 steps to bring happiness

- Find:** Find an average size situation. Decide who to tell it to, a friend, a neighbor, a friend at a wedding.
- Wear your gear and let** (personally so that the tell can be removed without leaving the paper).
- Push:** Gather the items, remove all plastic and cardboard packaging and pack into the box. Please choose items that will not collect dust (those with a shirt fit and get the required).
- Check:** On the checklist, in the items you have put in our directory, make any of are not on the list.
- Donate:** Secure the box (checklist to the outside the checklist fit using string tape, the checklist envelope as attached and place with a short note your inside your box.
- Deliver:** Secure the fit with rubber bands, drive regulations require Bylaw 2000 (check the contents of your box) (see your box to your collection point).

Christmas delivery your gift should be at your gift, school or other (offered) during the week of October/ giving of November



Checklist

Please tick the box next to who the gift is for
Please specify the age of the girl or boy
you have listed this box for:

<input type="checkbox"/> Girl	<input type="checkbox"/> Boy
<input type="checkbox"/> Teenage	<input type="checkbox"/> Teenage
<input type="checkbox"/> Woman	<input type="checkbox"/> Man
<input type="checkbox"/> Elderly woman	<input type="checkbox"/> Elderly woman

Checklist

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<input type="checkbox"/> Woman	<input type="checkbox"/> Man
<input type="checkbox"/> Elderly woman	<input type="checkbox"/> Elderly woman

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<input type="checkbox"/> Woman	<input type="checkbox"/> Man
<input type="checkbox"/> Elderly woman	<input type="checkbox"/> Elderly woman

ESSENTIAL ITEMS (ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW)

Include the following items highlighted in the top box.

<input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush and Toothpaste	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Toy for boys and girls such as cars, dolls, balls, Poppo, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/> Hat, scarf, gloves	<input type="checkbox"/> Small toy for boys and girls such as cars, dolls, balls, Poppo, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/> Soap	<input type="checkbox"/> Small toy for boys and girls such as cars, dolls, balls, Poppo, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/> Underwear/ Socks/Tights	<input type="checkbox"/> Small toy for boys and girls such as cars, dolls, balls, Poppo, etc.

We will include only 10 donated items, our listed items such as toys or books or clothing (eg. underwear) are included (checklist to the outside the checklist fit using string tape, the checklist envelope as attached and place with a short note your inside your box).

Children's Toys (checklist to the outside the checklist fit using string tape, the checklist envelope as attached and place with a short note your inside your box).

<input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo	<input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo/Conditioner
<input type="checkbox"/> Face stick/Make up	<input type="checkbox"/> Face stick/Make up
<input type="checkbox"/> Deodorant	<input type="checkbox"/> Deodorant
<input type="checkbox"/> Moisturizing Cream	<input type="checkbox"/> Moisturizing Cream
<input type="checkbox"/> Conditioner	<input type="checkbox"/> Conditioner
<input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary Products	<input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary Products
<input type="checkbox"/> Shaving foam/Razor	<input type="checkbox"/> Shaving foam/Razor

Menstruation

<input type="checkbox"/> Hair Make-up	<input type="checkbox"/> Hair Make-up
<input type="checkbox"/> Sewing Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> Sewing Equipment
<input type="checkbox"/> Household Candles	<input type="checkbox"/> Household Candles

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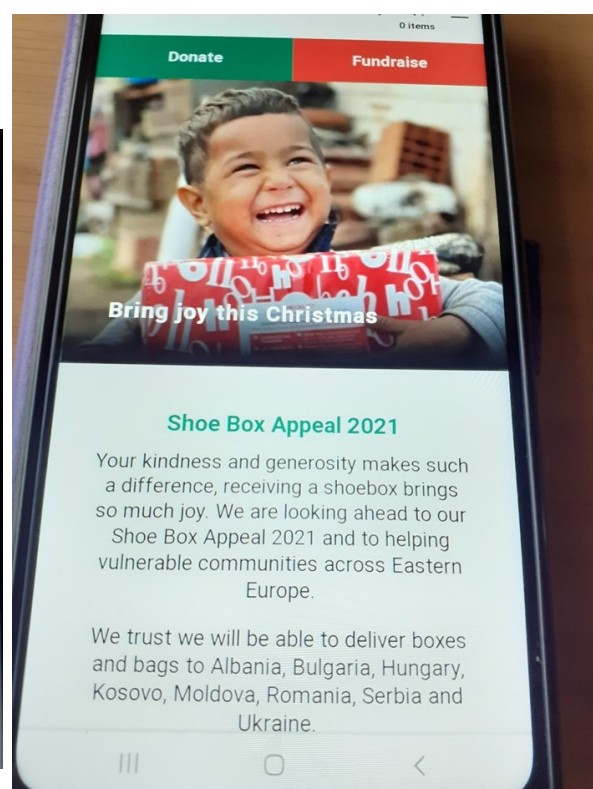
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<input type="checkbox"/> Shaving foam/Razor	<input type="checkbox"/> Shaving foam/Razor

Menstruation

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Helping Hands

Our Helping Hands team swung into action within a few days of the first national lockdown in March 2020. Over the following year and a half, the collective effort from this band of volunteers delivered prescriptions, brought in shopping, and provided valuable telephone companionship and support to our vulnerable and lonely members as well as dealing with some more unusual requests! At Christmas last year the team helped to deliver 126 Christmas gift bags to members at home and in care homes. The impact of this initiative alone could be judged by the numerous heartfelt messages of appreciation received by our Minister.

The gradual easing of restrictions has reduced the requests for support and the Helping Hands team has now stood down. The Kirk Session is extremely grateful for the contribution of the team in supporting our congregation throughout a most difficult time, and on behalf of the Session and congregation I offer my sincere thanks for the support of the Helping Hands team over this lengthy period.

Alistair Walker

Session Clerk



Church Website Update - November 2021

We have been making some changes on the website, www.ekopc.org.uk and more are in the offing:

Actioned

You may have noticed that we have changed the titles of our website 'noticeboards':

'Our Response in Challenging Times' has been retitled as the more forward-looking 'Getting Back to Normal'.

'The Lighter Side' has gone because we have moved on from the dark days of lockdown. It is retitled as 'Focus' and it gives us a good space to share lengthier pieces of information, or those with lots of photos like the current focus on 'Hall Letting'.

Finally 'Other Special Notices' is now just 'Notices'.

Planned

We are planning to reinstate our 'What's On' calendar of events, as many of our groups are now meeting once again.

Our Photo Gallery page needs updating as no changes were made during the lockdown periods. Please feel free to send me any good photos you have of church activities for consideration.

As always, I would be very happy to talk to people about the website and how it's updated etc, even if it's just for nosiness! But anyone interested enough in helping out would be more than welcome. It's something you can do at home at a time that suits you, and only requires a modicum of computing skills (promise!) You'd be shown all you need to know. Just get in touch if you'd like to know more.

Christine Bayfield





Psalm 23 Word Search

W P Q D G S T K S E I G N D C
 O P Y U A C D H I N G O J A R
 J V I S E V E A P N U O X H E
 C D E T E P I E E E G D P F V
 E C O R H I E D V L G N A M E
 X R M E F H M F E A R E T L R
 P D R L S L D E U K A S H A O
 Y D S D A N O I N T S S L S F
 T E U Q N A B W Y E S N M P O
 Q W I L T K L E S U O H H X Z

anoint
 banquet
 David
 enemies
 fear
 forever
 goodness
 grass
 guide



house
 king
 leads
 overflows
 path
 protect
 psalm
 sheep
 shepherd

Pastoral Register

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

Walter Elder

John Whiteford



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 December edition of the EKO is:

Wednesday 24th November

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	Mr Alistair Walker	
Treasurer	Mr Ronnie Niven	
Roll Keeper	Mr Robert Cossar	
Gift Aid	Mr Des Lavery	
Church Secretary	Louise Reilly (Hall Letting) Church Halls, 3—5 Montgomery St. Glebe Street Hall	Tel. 279004
Church Office	E-mail Address:	ekopc.office@btconnect.com
Organist	Mr Colin Thomas	
Publications Convenor	Janice Gourlay	
Magazine Editor	David Kent, 18 Glen Lyon G74 2JJ davidkent28@virginmedia.com	

E-mail copies of November's EKO magazine are available from:-

ekopcmagazine@gmail.com

Visit the East Kilbride Old Parish Church Website at: www.ekopc.org.uk

OR Facebook page: www.facebook.com/EKOLDPC