

The background of the entire cover is a photograph of a riverbed. In the center, a single leaf with a mix of orange, yellow, and green hues floats on the water's surface. The water is clear, revealing a bed of smooth, multi-colored stones in shades of grey, brown, and white. Sunlight filters through the water, creating a shimmering, iridescent pattern of light and dark patches across the stones and the leaf. The overall mood is serene and natural.

# EKO

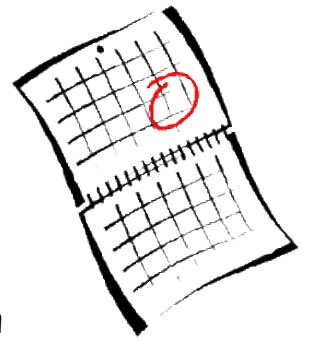
The Magazine for  
East Kilbride  
Old Parish Church

**SEPTEMBER 2021**

**EDITION 599**



# 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.

## SEPTEMBER

Sunday 5th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 12th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 19th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 26th	Morning Worship	11am

## OCTOBER

Sunday 3rd	Sacrament of Communion	11am
------------	------------------------	------



## Slowly but Surely

Like wading through treacle, though I've never actually done that, step by step the life of our congregation is emerging from an 18-month hiatus into some semblance of church life as we would wish it to be. We can now sing again in church – albeit it behind our masks – but at least we can have some feeling of involvement in the service after so many months of impatient passivity. The legal requirement for social distancing has been removed but...hold on...the mandarins in our Edinburgh headquarters have advised that we remain cautious, so for a few weeks more we will continue to provide distanced seating for our congregation. Many of our members understandably remain concerned about their safety and we will maintain our efforts to ensure that our premises and our church services are both welcoming and safe.

A significant development in the life of the Kirk Session was, just a couple of weeks ago, our first in-person meeting since February 2020 in the re-decorated Glebe Street hall. Although here too, face coverings were de rigueur, there was a real sense of togetherness and teamwork.



One of the business items at the Session meeting was the approval of updated policies on hall lets and agreement to allow appropriate commercial lets of our premises to help improve our income. Administration of hall lets for both church organisations and commercial lets will be managed by Louise, our Church Secretary. We expect that our halls will gradually come back into regular use over the next few months as organisations and activities return. This will be yet another indication that church life as we knew it is at last returning.

*Alistair Walker* - Session Clerk



Can You Do It?

We urgently need a few volunteers to work with Austin to pick up some of the skills needed to deliver the live streaming of our church services. We now have three trained operators, but we really need at least the same again to be able to operate a reasonable rota to allow for holidays and other commitments.

Austin is confident that with side-by-side training and some help with the technical bits, someone with a bit of enthusiasm and an interest in acquiring additional skills would soon be up to speed.

If you, or anyone in your family, are interested in knowing more please speak to Austin or anyone on the camera team or with myself.

*Alistair Walker* - Session Clerk



# Pastoral Letter

Hello everyone,

David Kent kindly invited me to share in this month's magazine. Thank you David.

So by way of introduction, my name is Hazel Shaw. I am a candidate in training for ministry with the Church of Scotland having been accepted to train immediately before the pandemic in February 2020. I am currently studying for a BA in Theology in Paisley (although it has been predominantly online for obvious reasons) and I have now completed 2 academic years with 2 more to go – I'm half way there!.

I am delighted to say that with God's help I have successfully passed each of the 12 modules so far and I absolutely love learning. There is so much of interest – Church history, Old Testament prophet, Pauline theology, Evangelism, Youth Culture and Church, Jesus and the Gospels - the list goes on but each subject has something unique to share about God's love for us. I highly recommend it to you and if you want to know more please just ask. One drawback is there can be too many big words which some of the more intellectual theologians use!! But I am learning.

I had the great joy and privilege of being on placement for 9 months at the South Parish Church here in East Kilbride. It was a great experience and I met many wonderful people and learned a great deal.

Over the summer I also enjoyed a 2 month placement at Braehead House Christian Healing and Retreat Centre which was great and again a visit there is recommended – beautiful gardens, a prayer cabin and such a wonderful place of peace.

The next step in my journey means I will shortly begin my next placement which is at St Mary's Church in Motherwell and I am excited to see what will unfold there.

I am both grateful and excited about all that God has in store for me in this journey and look forward to seeing how I can continue to serve Him, especially as we move on from what has been a very unusual time. As an ex banker it's been particularly strange – who would have ever thought it was acceptable to enter a bank wearing a mask asking for money! Times have been tough and anxieties have understandably come to the fore but as I was preparing this reflection I noticed that my daily devotions verse was Philippians 4: 6. Here it says:

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”*

I am always so encouraged knowing that God is ready and wants to hear our prayers. He doesn't want us to be anxious or worried about anything. God is here to hear our concerns and we can cast any worries on him. Matthew 11: 28 says:

*“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”*

How wonderful it is that we have a God, a living God, who loves us so much that when things are tough we can find rest in Him, we can bring our concerns and worries to Him.

So I'd like to encourage you, that no matter how hard things are or have been, trust God, be thankful for His blessings and in gratitude give thanks.

For further encouragement, I thought I'd share this little story with you.

A daughter was telling her Mum about everything going wrong. She'd failed an exam, her boyfriend had dumped her and her best friend was

moving away.

Meanwhile, the Mum was baking a cake. She asked her daughter if she would like something to eat.

The daughter smiled and said “yes, absolutely, I love your cake”.

“Here have some cooking oil” her mum offers.

“Yuck” says the daughter.

“How about a couple of raw eggs?”

“Gross Mum!”

“Would you like some flour then? Or maybe some baking soda?”

“Mum, these are all horrible!”

To which the Mum replies,

“Yes all those things seem bad all by themselves but when they are put together in the right way, they make a wonderfully delicious cake!”



And so it is with God. God works in the same way. At times, we wonder why God lets us go through hard times but the good news is that we can trust that God’s plans for us will become something wonderful.

Why not check out Romans 8:28 for yourself!

To close, I am very thankful to Anne for the opportunity to have led worship during her well-deserved holiday and have been most encouraged by the warm welcome and kind feedback I have received.

Thank you one and all.

I wish you all every blessing and look forward to seeing you again soon.

*Hazel*



## Of General Interest

It is interesting to read, from the Church of Scotland website, an article extolling the virtues of Moncrieff Parish Church and the work they performed in the community during lockdown and the pandemic. Dr Lisa Cameron, our MP, tabled an Early Day Motion in the House of Commons in recognition of their work and the House of Commons gave this official recognition.

The article makes interesting reading especially when you realise that East Kilbride Old Parish Church did almost exactly the same—with no Parliamentary recognition!

More importantly—Dr. Cameron tabled a similar Early Day Motion in recognition of the life and work of our dear departed Angus McConnel, making reference to his work in the church and in the community. He is pictured with our own minister Anne as you see below.



Anne is quoted as saying, "Angus was a real man of faith. His quiet dedication made a difference to so many people's lives.

Our church family will not be the same without him."

*Editor*



## 17th EK Guides

Back on the 22nd of June we had our first face to face meeting, outdoors, with the Guides. The sun was shining & it was lovely just to chill out while eating our picnics and to catch up with them all.

After the picnic the girls were presented with the badges earned during the term: we had a Promise celebration, and Sarah received a certificate in celebration of being the first Guide in our unit to complete all 24 Interest badges.

Achieving a bronze, silver or gold section award is a special achievement in guiding and we were absolutely delighted to present:

Sarah, Ella, Mia & Jane with the Guide Bronze award

Sarah achieved the section Silver award

Jane and Sarah were also presented with the section Gold Award (the highest award in Guides).

Huge congratulations to each of them for their incredible hard work and well done to all our Guides on achieving so many badges this past Guiding year!

*Lynne, Louise & all the Guides*



# The Prayer Diary

The prayer group continues to take your prayer requests to our Heavenly Father. Text your requests to 07443503142 or email marionleddie@gmail.com

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



## SEPTEMBER

- 1st. Lord we pray for all in the NHS and ask that they would cope with the situation that they are in.
- 2nd. Lord, please comfort the people who are housebound and give them patience.
- 3rd. We pray for work of the Leprosy Mission which is trying to continue to treat people with leprosy despite the difficulties caused by the coronavirus.
- 4th. Lord, bless all the key workers who are keeping our country going in these unusual times.
- 5th. Father, thank you for loving us in spite of our faults and weaknesses.
- 6th. Protect our children and families during summer holidays.
- 7th. As restrictions ease pray that we still display caution.
- 8th. Jesus you are my rock and my salvation
- 9th. Lord be with those in Europe affected by the floods.
- 10th. Thank you, Lord for being my friend.
- 11th. Father be with everyone in their time of trouble.
- 12th. We thank you Father that you are at work in our world answering prayers.
- 13th. We pray for those suffering from long covid that help can be found for it.
- 14th. Help me turn my back on sin and turn my heart to you.
- 15th. People will dwell again in his shade, they will flourish like grain they will blossom like the vine.
- 16th. Thank you, Lord for the blessings in my life.

- 17th. Father, help us to remember that we all need to do our part to keep others safe.
- 18th. We give thanks Lord for your amazing love, guidance and protection.
- 19th. Give thanks for our doctors and nurses and for all their skills that we so badly need.
- 20th. My trust is in the Lord, never has it been betrayed.
- 21st. Lord thank you for the gifts that Iain Shaw uses within our congregation with our families and young people.
- 22nd. Pray that unemployment in our town will go down and more jobs become available.
- 23rd. Father God, thanks for the healing miracles that we are witnessing in our church.
- 24th. Lord keep me safe as I take refuge in you.
- 25th. Be with politicians world-wide as they deal with recent complex and serious issues.
- 26th. Please send your light to guide me along the narrow path.
- 27th. Thank you for your promise Lord, that when I am weak you are strong and when I am weary and burdened you will make me strong and give me peace.
- 28th. Open my lips so that my mouth may sing your praises.
- 29th. Give thanks that EKOPC led by our minister Anne Paton, may be a shining light as it reaches out to the community of East Kilbride revealing God's glory
- 30th. Lead us and guide us when we are dealing with covid 19.

## OCTOBER

- 1st. Father keep us forever looking forward in our Old Parish Church, mindful that we need to be good stewards in order to pass on a healthy church.
- 2nd. Father strengthen my ability to concentrate and give time to what is important.
- 3rd. O Lord, I thank you for your love and your world.
- 4th. We give thanks for our families who support us, may we all have good health and many happy years together.
- 5th. Lord, we thank you that you are the same yesterday today and forever.
- 6th. Father be close to and protect all who ask for your help.





## CHRISTIAN AID BOXES

The Total from August 2018 to June 2019 was £604.57

The Total from June 2019 to June 2021 was £669.57

You can see how the total was affected by the lockdown. However now that we are back to church more people are handing in their C. Aid boxes. Or you can phone the Smiths on 226718 and we will pick them up.

Thank you also for the tremendous efforts at C. Aid Week 2021.



## HARVEST APPEAL October 2021

The Kirk Session decided that the appeal would be split between two charities – one local, and the other one abroad. One will be **Loaves and Fishes**, which runs a local food bank. The other will be the international group **Water Aid**, which operates in poor countries to supply clean water, toilets, and hygiene.



## BOOK REVIEWS

**'The Beekeeper of Aleppo'** by Christy Lefteri

This gripping story tells the tale of Nuri the beekeeper and his wife Afra, who live in the beautiful city of Aleppo in Syria. War breaks out and they are forced to flee. They embark on a perilous journey through Turkey and Greece towards an uncertain future in Britain. It gives us an insight into the experience of refugees fleeing from terror and the difficulties they face being accepted to settle in Britain.

**'On the Move'** a book of poems about Migration by Michael Rosen

The well-known poet writes about his own family's experience of fleeing from their Jewish background in Poland in World War 2.

*Mary Smith*



## Update from Iain Shaw

What a busy summer we had with lots going on. I did a brief review and put some photos in the last magazine of our Summer Olympic Games holiday club and the new art group we started during the school holidays so here is a quick resume of our second holiday club – Connect 5 - and some photos.

We held the Connect 5 holiday club over 5 mornings from Mon 9<sup>th</sup> – Fri 13<sup>th</sup> August in the church halls and had 62 children registered with an average daily attendance of around 50 which was magnificent – we had 18 volunteers who helped make the club run smoothly and I say a huge thank you to each of them for an outstanding job.

This holiday club was a more traditional indoor event in the Church halls based on 5 of the “I Am” sayings of Jesus. At the end of the last morning, we presented each child and leader with a commemorative medal and a hot dog courtesy of the generosity of Ken & Marilyn Ross.

May I also say a huge thank you to Paul Wilson (Charlotte’s Dad) who works for Barr’s Ltd for their most generous donation of 300 bottles of water to use over our summer activities and also to my friend Colin Graham who is a manager at Farmfoods in Cumbernauld who very kindly donated 300 fruit shoot soft drinks again for use at our summer activities. Thank you both for your generosity, it is very much appreciated.

We held a FAMILY SERVICE on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August which was also known as “Back to School Sunday” at which we showcased both holiday clubs and the art group. We had a superb attendance of 30 children and 35 adults (family members) join us at the service and all the children were involved in readings, prayers, singing and dancing which included some outstanding air guitar playing from the congregation. It was a busy, noisy but uplifting service and

wasn't it wonderful to have the church filled with children, young people and their families– hopefully some of them will consider joining us on a regular basis at our children's Sunday morning worship sessions either in person or via zoom and/or attend future activities and events we have planned for the new session – more details including dates and times of all the events and activities we have planned are elsewhere in this magazine.

That is more than enough for now – I am taking up too much space in the magazine with my ramblings.

Please keep all the work we do and have planned over the next few months with our children, young people and families in your thoughts and prayers and I want to say thank you for your continued prayers, support and encouragement. I really value and appreciate them.

*Iain* (Youth & Families Worker)

Mobile: 07912 295943 Email: iainshaw18@gmail.com



## Arts & Crafts Group



THE ARTS & CRAFTS GROUP, like all the organisations, is looking forward to being able to meet again on a regular basis. October is when we are hoping to be able to start up, in the Lounge Area, and enjoy the fellowship of being together again. Hopefully we will be able to meet on Wednesday 6th October at 10am and get a new session started.

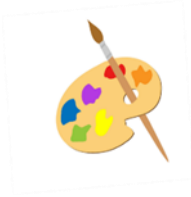
We have kept in touch within the group, mainly by telephone, but starting to work on our crafts every week together will be a big boost for us all.

*Ena King*





# East Kilbride Old Parish Church What's On



## East Kilbride Old Parish Church Children's Art Group



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

All Primary School aged children welcome:  
snack & all materials provided.

To register to attend please email  
[iainshaw18@gmail.com](mailto:iainshaw18@gmail.com) or text 07912 295943

## Family Film Afternoon – The Greatest Showman



Sunday 19th September 2-4pm in our Glebe St Hall.  
Cost £2 per person. Popcorn & drink included in price.  
To reserve your seat text Iain on 07912 295943

### In Person Sunday School

restarts Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug at 11am until around 11.45am in the Upper Hall  
at The Church. All welcome.

Our Zoom Sunday School sessions  
resume on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug at 9am for around 45mins

All welcome: to get the zoom joining code  
text Iain on 07912 295943



**Our Monthly Messy Church sessions for all the family restart on Sunday afternoon 12<sup>th</sup> September from 2-4pm in our Glebe St Hall. Lots of fun, arts, crafts, games, singing & worship: a meal is also included. All free although donations are welcome.**

**Coming in October a brand-new youth group for those in P5-P7, A Family Party Night & A Family Beetle Drive & Bingo Night – More information will be available very soon.**





Pictures of the Second Holiday Club and Arts Group and the church service on the 15th August.







# CHILDREN OF THE BIBLE

Match the question with the  
answer on the right.

## Questions

- \_\_\_\_ How old was Josiah when he became King?
- \_\_\_\_ What were the names of Joseph's two sons?
- \_\_\_\_ Who was Jacob's youngest son?
- \_\_\_\_ How many sons did Noah have?
- \_\_\_\_ Which child was born into the tribe of Levi, and adopted by Pharaoh's daughter?
- \_\_\_\_ Who was sold into slavery by his brothers?
- \_\_\_\_ Who was the widow who met baby Yeshua at the Temple?
- \_\_\_\_ What was David doing when Samuel called to anoint him King?
- \_\_\_\_ When Samuel was called by Yah (God) as a child, who did he think was calling?
- \_\_\_\_ At the feeding of the 5000, a young boy provided what food?

## Answers

- 1. Moses
- 2. Benjamin
- 3. Five barley loaves & two small fish
- 4. Joseph
- 5. Taking care of sheep
- 6. Anna
- 7. Three: Shem, Ham, and Japheth
- 8. Eight
- 9. Ephraim & Manasseh
- 10. Eli

## Pastoral Register

### Baptisms “Make all nations my disciples”

River Hutchison-Noble

Ruby Catherine Angely Barr

Lily Jean Ross



## 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 October edition of the EKO is:

**Wednesday 22nd September**

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

<b>Minister</b>	<b>Rev. Anne Paton BA BD</b>	<b>Tel. 01355 220732</b>
	<b>40 Maxwell Drive. G74 4HJ</b>	<b>Mobile 07912295940</b>
	<b>E-mail address: <a href="mailto:apaton@churchofscotland.org.uk">apaton@churchofscotland.org.uk</a></b>	

**Pastoral Assistants:** **Rev. Stewart Smith MA BD**  
**and Miss Sheena Bell**

**Youth & Families Worker** **Iain Shaw**  
**E-mail: [iainshaw18@gmail.com](mailto:iainshaw18@gmail.com)**

**Session Clerk** **Mr Alistair Walker**

**Treasurer** **Mr Ronnie Niven**

**Roll Keeper** **Mr Robert Cossar**

**Gift Aid** **Mr Des Laverty**

**Church Secretary** **Louise Reilly (Hall Letting)**  
**Church Halls, 3—5 Montgomery St. Tel. 279004**  
**Glebe Street Hall**

**Church Office** **E-mail Address: [ekopc.office@btconnect.com](mailto:ekopc.office@btconnect.com)**

**Organist** **Mr Colin Thomas**

**Publications Convenor** **Janice Gourlay**

**Magazine Editor** **David Kent, 18 Glen Lyon G74 2JJ**  
**[davidkent28@virginmedia.com](mailto:davidkent28@virginmedia.com)**

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

**[ekopcmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:ekopcmagazine@gmail.com)**

**Visit the East Kilbride Old Parish Church Website at: [www.ekopc.org.uk](http://www.ekopc.org.uk)**

**OR Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/EKOLDPC](http://www.facebook.com/EKOLDPC)**

