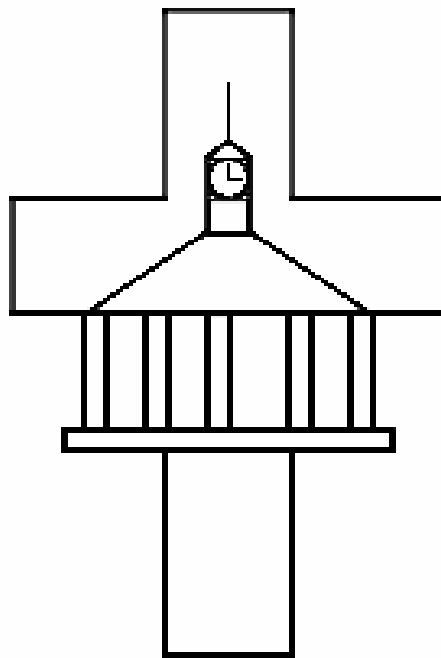


CHALLENGE

Bridgeton St Francis-in-the-East Church of Scotland Parish Magazine



Let us rise up and build

Church: 26 Queen Mary Street, Glasgow, G40 3BB
Tel: 0141 556 2830

Minister: Rev. Howard Hudson, Tel: 0141 587 8667
Session Clerk: Mr James Gibson, Tel: 013552 41377
Church House: 22 Queen Mary Street, Bridgeton

www.bridgetonstfrancis.org.uk
www.facebook.com/bridgetonstfrancis
Scottish Charity SCO12535

AUTUMN 2018

WE HAVE A DREAM...

We have a dream of a church that is full of people of all ages including the young, from the district and beyond, enthusiastic, willing to play their part, keen to know the Lord, praising and thanking God from the very bottom of their hearts, willing to share their love, caring for others, both inside the church and outside it.

We have a dream of a church that is hungry to be led by God, to serve the Lord, study the Bible, grow in faith, communicate clearly, worship, spread the gospel in the community, pray, and live in fellowship with each other.

We have a dream of a church made up of tolerant people between whom there are no barriers of class, colour or creed, age, hatred, bitterness, jealousy, criticism, wealth or poverty, appearance, health, sex, status or position.

We have a dream of a church that is inclusive and open to everyone, no matter who they are or what they might have done, whether they are like us or not, and that is open to ways of working in the community.

We have a dream of a church that has a heart for the community, our neighbours, pleasing God, other people's needs, friendship, mission here at home and abroad, and has the courage to take the flack for being Christians.

We have a dream of a church in which God's Spirit is present, is really believed in, and is working in us to fulfil our commitment to Christ, leading us, always near, felt, transforming us more and more into the people God wants us to be.

We have a dream of a church that is excited and passionate about Jesus, the gospel, praising and worshipping God, prayer, evangelism, reading the Bible, full of hope for the present and the future.

This is our dream for Bridgeton, St. Francis-in-the-East Church. Will you share it with us? Will you help us make it a reality?

- Your Kirk Session

Message from the Manse

Dear Friends,

Do you ever make a mess of things? How do you feel when you do? I am all too aware at times that I make a right mess of things and feel pretty awful when I do. I feel I've let down God and let down others and cry out to God to forgive me and restore me back on the right path, His path - and He does! Isn't that amazing? If you're trusting Jesus, even if you mess up big time, as soon as you turn to God and cry out to Him to forgive you and restore you He does. He doesn't write you off. He doesn't give up on you. He loves you and wants you to be His own through trusting Jesus and whenever you mess up to cry out to Him to forgive you and restore you - and He does, remembering that Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment on Himself for everyone who trusts themselves to Him.

But do you know what's even more amazing? God can even take our mess and bring something good out of it! I remember many years ago when I was about 19 I entered a "Top Talker" competition in our church's Youth Fellowship. You had to speak for two minutes on a subject of your choice and I thought that this would be the opportunity to share with my friends in the Youth Fellowship about Jesus and the difference that trusting Jesus makes. But, Howard being Howard, I left preparing my talk to the last minute and only had the first 30 seconds worth written down in front of me. And when I got to the end of that, my mind went blank and I just had to babble on for the rest of the two minutes making a right mess of it, longing for my two minutes to be up. And I felt pretty awful. Here had been an opportunity God had given me to share with my friends about Jesus and the difference trusting Him makes and I'd made a right mess of it. I felt that I'd let down God and dishonoured Him and cried out to God to forgive me and restore me.

Just over two years later the then President of our Youth Fellowship committed suicide and one of my friends came back with me to my house that night. As we were chatting he asked me, "What were you on about when you were talking about letting Jesus come into your life?" And I looked at him and

thought, "When had he ever heard me say anything like that?" And I suddenly realised that it could only have been just over two years before when I had made such a mess of things at that "Top Talker" competition! And to cut a long story short, four months and many conversations later my friend, who would never attend a church service but came along to the Youth Fellowship, trusted himself to Jesus and he has now been a minister of the Church of Scotland for many years. Isn't it amazing how God can even take our mess and bring something good out of it?

So whenever you feel you've made a right mess of something, don't just let it pull you down. Instead trust yourself to Jesus and cry out to God to forgive you and restore you - and He will! And even more amazing He may even take your mess and bring something good out of it to prove that God is real and can do what we can't do.

Yours in His love,
Howard.



FUNERALS

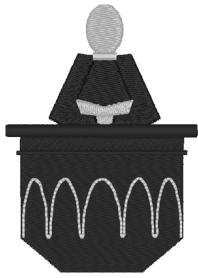
20/07/18 Mr Graham Armstrong



"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

John 14:27

MINISTER'S MENTIONS



- I shall be on holiday from Monday 15th October till Sunday 21st October when Ronnie Craig will be back to take our morning service. If you need the help of a minister while I am on holiday, please phone Rev. Peter Davidge on 07765 096599.

REGNAL

During the summer break the Regnal enjoyed a day trip to Broughty Ferry. The weather was glorious and we had an educational visit to a local mill.

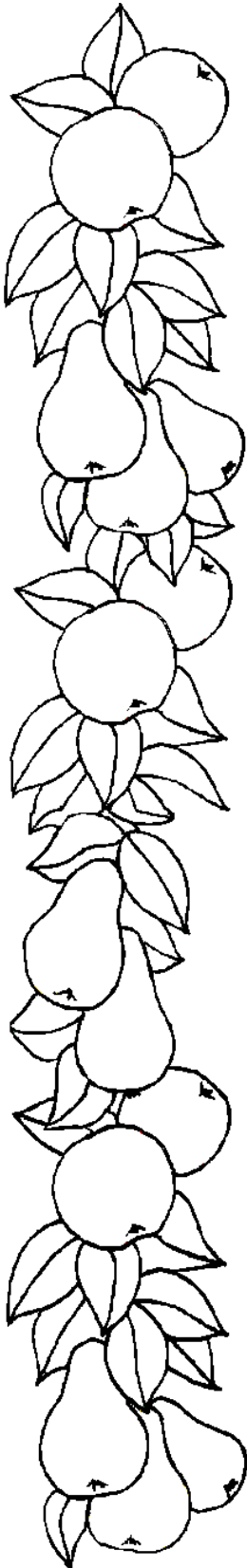
The Regnal restarts on **Monday 9th September**, at 7.30pm. There will be a varied programme of events and all men are very welcome to come along on Monday nights.

- *Robert Humphries*

When you say "There's too much evil in this world, you assume there's good. When you assume there's good, you assume there's such a thing as a "moral law" on the basis of which to differentiate between good and evil. But if you assume a moral law, you must posit a "Moral-Law Giver", but that's Who you're trying to disprove and not prove. Because if there's no Moral-Law Giver, there's no moral law. If there's no moral law, there's no good. If there's no good, there's no evil. What is your question?"

Ravi Zacharias

HARVEST 2018



Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be on Sunday 14th October at 11am and there are two ways that you can give a harvest gift, either by putting a cash donation in a Lodging House Mission envelope which we will supply or by bringing something for the harvest display. The church will be open from 12noon till 1pm on Saturday 13th October to receive your harvest gifts and for setting up our harvest display.

After the Harvest Service we will need people to stay behind to help distribute the gifts, and it is hoped that many people, including all our members with cars, will stay behind to help. The Kirk Session has decided that the gifts will once again be distributed to those in our church who are housebound or in hospital or eventide homes and to the Lodging House Mission.

As each year we receive so much for our harvest display, including more perishables than we really need, it would be very much appreciated if gifts for the harvest display were either in tins or breakfast cereal, soup cereal, biscuits, dried fruit, rice, sugar, tea, coffee or fruit juice. That way what we don't need for those in our church who are ill, housebound, in hospital, eventide homes, can go to the Lodging House Mission.

If you would like to help plan our Harvest Service, please come to our planning meeting in the Billiard Room on Monday 17th September at 6.30pm.

LHM UPDATE

As I update LHM news it is only days away to LHM cycle run taking place on Saturday 24 August. We have two guys this year Stewart & Stevie volunteering to take on the challenge in pedalling for the homeless. THANKS & GOOD LUCK GUYS!! I will update you with funds raised in next issue of magazine.

NEW ASSISTANT PROJECT MANAGER

In June a new assistant project manager was appointed, he is Stephen Mitchell. Stephen brings to LHM 30 years experience from previously employer the Wayside Centre in Glasgow. Gus Smeaton continues to take on the role as Project Manager on a voluntary basis.

For all who have asked if LHM has a new chaplain, at this moment in time the answer is no, but have been told the situation is ongoing.

LHM APPEAL

I have been contacted by LHM appealing for gents socks, pants & boxers. We have donated the above in the past and I can assure you these gifts have been very gratefully received. Perhaps you would like to make these donations in the harvest appeal.

HARVEST

Harvest Sunday is 14 October and to those in the past years who have found donating tins etc. too heavy to bring to church, but prefer to donate a monetary gift, then LHM envelopes will be provided.

WINTER SHELTER

Over the past few years the winter shelter has proved a tremendous success, so this year the shelter will open on 1 December and remain open until 31 March 2019.

LHM is open 7 days a week providing hot breakfasts & lunches all free of charge. Tea & coffee is served free throughout the day.

Only day LHM is closed will be New Years Day, but will be open on Christmas day serving 150 Christmas lunches, this lunch is always gratefully appreciated by all the service users.

We at Bridgeton St. Francis rise to the challenge of donating clothes, underwear and monetary gifts all year round and I would like to thank everyone for your continued support to those who are less fortunate than ourselves. **THANK YOU.**

- Jackie Hughes
(LHM Rep.)

CRÈCHE ROTA

Sep 2 nd	Betty Glassford	Nancy Humphries
Sep 9 th	May Livingstone	Margaret Miller
Sep 16 th	Betty Glassford	Nancy Humphries
Sep 23 rd	May Livingstone	Margaret Miller
Sep 30 th	Betty Glassford	Nancy Humphries
Oct 7 th	May Livingstone	Margaret Miller
Oct 14 th	Betty Glassford	Nancy Humphries
Oct 21 st	May Livingstone	Margaret Miller
Oct 28 th	Betty Glassford	Nancy Humphries
Nov 4 th	May Livingstone	Margaret Miller
Nov 11 th	Betty Glassford	Nancy Humphries
Nov 18 th	May Livingstone	Margaret Miller
Nov 25 th	Betty Glassford	Nancy Humphries
Dec 2 nd	May Livingstone	Margaret Miller



Anyone who wishes to join the crèche rota, please see Betty Glassford. Thank you.

"So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless."

James 2:17

FLOWERS

Many thanks to all who have contributed in any way to the church's Flower Fund. Your donations are always appreciated. If there is anyone else who would like to put flowers in the church, perhaps in memory of someone or an anniversary, etc, please speak to either Rita McKenna or Sharon Miller. Donations are as follows:

JUNE

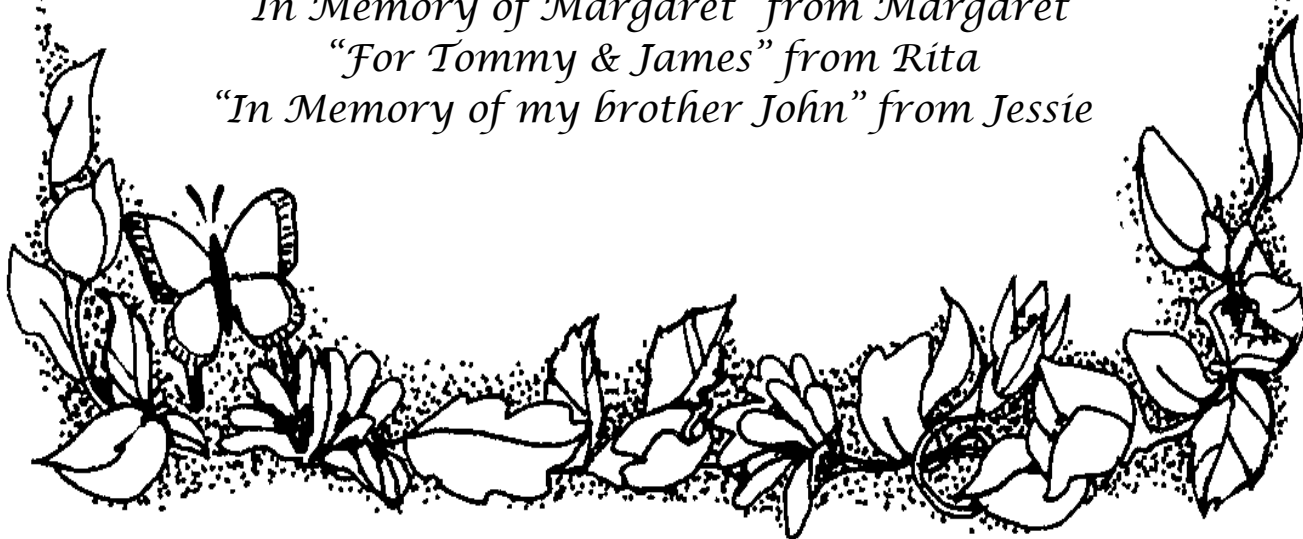
"For my brother Robert" from May
"In Memory of Mum & Dad" from Sandra & Willie
"In Memory of my nephew Alex" from Aunt Margaret

JULY

"In Memory of Davie" from Betty
"In Memory of my brother Robert" from Isabel
"In Memory of Bill" from Rita

AUGUST

"For my brother David, forever in our thoughts"
from Sadie & Family
"In Memory of Margaret" from Margaret
"For Tommy & James" from Rita
"In Memory of my brother John" from Jessie



YOUNG FRANKIES

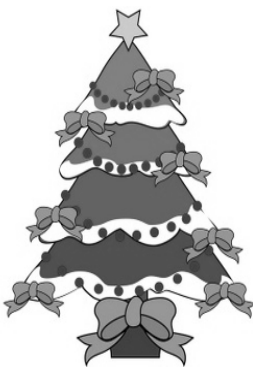
The session broke up on 3rd June with the prize giving and a time of games down in the billiard room. I apologize again to all those who found that this was a bit noisy.

It has been encouraging to see so many of the youngsters attending morning service during the school holidays: a big 'thank you' to them and their parents.

Young Frankies will resume on 23rd September when we hope to welcome everyone back and look forward to, perhaps, welcoming some new people.

- Helen Knight

CHRISTMAS FAIR



This years Christmas Fair will be on **Saturday 24th November** from 11.00am till 1.00pm. As well as the usual stalls, this year we are going to be selling good quality clothes and accessories. So we are looking for donations of home baking, books, CD's, DVD's, gifts, bric-a-brac, clothes, bags, jewellery, toys, christmas decorations, etc. Any donations will be gratefully appreciated.

We are also looking for anyone who wants to help set up on Friday 23rd November or would like to "man" a stall on the day. Please see Sharon Miller or Barbara Jennings for anymore information.

"Since he did not spare even his own Son for us but gave him up for us all, won't he also surely give us everything else?"

Romans 8:32

SHOW AND TELL!

Across Glasgow Presbytery, there is such a variety of brilliant approaches to working with local communities. This event aims to bring folk together from Priority Areas and congregations from across Glasgow, to learn from each other; the highs and the lows, and encourage the development of new ideas and projects!

This free event will run from **10.30am - 2pm** (incl. Lunch).

During the morning, you will have the opportunity to have conversations with 4 separate Glasgow congregations who have interesting pieces of work to share about how they have engaged with their community. You'll also be able to talk about your own experience and help each other explore possibilities.

We'll end with sandwiches and fruit and a chance to blether more with folk from Priority Areas Team, Presbytery of Glasgow, Transformation Team and Go For It.

Date: **19th September 2018**

Location: **Springfield Cambridge Parish Church, 49 Springfield Road, Bishopbriggs, G64 1PN**

BOOK NOW online at:

<https://st18.eventbrite.co.uk>

(any problems give us a phone 0141-248-2905)

GUILD

The Guild will be starting back on **Tuesday 2nd October** at 1.30pm. We have a full and varied programme for the coming year and it will be nice to see you all again. If there are any of you who would like to join or just come for the day to see what we do you will be very welcome.

- *Edith Watt*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<p>Sunday 2nd September</p>	<p>Souper Sunday – our annual 11am service taken by our elders with a chance to raise money for the Church of Scotland HIV/AIDS Project.</p>
<p>Wednesday 5th September</p>	<p>The People’s Communion – our annual service of rededication for everyone in our church and Church House near the start of a new session with Rev. George Cowie. Church House, 22 Queen Mary Street at 7.30pm.</p>
<p>Sunday 14th October</p>	<p>Our church’s Harvest Thanksgiving Service at 11am. (see ‘Harvest 2018’ article for more details)</p>
<p>Tuesday 6th – Wednesday 7th November</p>	<p>Priority Areas Big Conversation, Erskine Bridge Hotel. If you want to find out more or book a place, please see Howard.</p>
<p>Friday 9th November</p>	<p>Remembrance at the Cross – our annual Act of Remembrance from 10.40am at Bridgeton Cross.</p>
<p>Sunday 11th November</p>	<p>Remembrance Sunday Service – here in our church at 10.50am.</p>
<p>Saturday 24th November</p>	<p>Christmas Fair – in church hall from 11am-1pm.</p>

MARK THIS

Come and join us as we find out more about Jesus and what he means for us as we go on a journey with Jesus through the Gospel of Mark on Wednesdays at 7.30pm in the Upper Hall. Everyone very welcome!

YEAR OF YOUNG PEOPLE

In this, the Year of Young People, I would like to quote a few words written by Robin Downie, Moderator of the 2017 National Youth Assembly, in his introduction to the Y.O.Y.P. toolkit issued by the Church of Scotland.

Robin wrote "I have a dream for a Church that makes the most of its young people, empowering its youth to have more of a say and influence on the church, a church that challenges and inspires its youth; a church that recognizes the value of young people within the body of Christ..."

Also in this toolkit is the following prayer for this special year:

Welcoming God,

You welcome all of us with your open arms. Inspire and guide us, that we may we never hinder your children from coming to you; and remember that we are all part of your family. Bring us together as a loving community for all, that we may learn from each other as we walk side by side in faith.

Loving God,

We pray for those who have come to know you, whether that relationship is new or if they have made a commitment to you and stepped out in faith; we pray that they would grow in grace and knowledge as they continue their walk with you. We pray for those far away from you. Meet them where they are and give them the courage and strength to make the right decisions, that they may come to know and experience your gracious love.

Caring and Compassionate God,

We pray and ask you to guide and protect children and young people from that which may restrict them on their journey in life and faith. We pray for the day when all children in the world can be just that: children. Be with them as they experience the dangers and injustices that are ever present in our world today.

Nurturing God,

We pray for all those who work with and support children and young people - for those of all ages who give their time, talents and love to create a place in churches and communities that can be the foundation of growth, confidence and a relationship with you.

Calling God,

You call us to follow, to serve, to welcome and to share. We come now to answer your call, to lift our minds and voices to you, and to thank and praise you for all the children and young people in our churches, communities, country and world. We ask that you would walk alongside them and grant them courage, strength and wisdom as they face the challenges of life.

Guiding God,

As we travel through this Year of Young People and beyond, help us to come alongside children and young people to draw closer to you, to answer your call to follow, to serve, to welcome and to share together, through the Holy Spirit.

We offer these prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Please pray for all the outreach to young people being carried out by our church especially for the up-coming **Messy Church** event.

- *Helen Knight*
(Prayer Promoter)



ROLL KEEPERS REPORT

We have 72 members on the Church Roll. 44 members communicated at the June Communion.

- *Betty Glassford*
(Roll Keeper)

MESSY CHURCH



Come along to our next Messy Church in our church hall on Saturday 15th September at 4pm. And please put another date for Messy Church on your calendar – Saturday 10th November, 4-6pm.

Messy Church is a different kind of church that meets at a time that suits those who normally would not be able to, or not want to, come to a regular church service. All ages are welcome (children must be accompanied by an adult) and together we enjoy crafts, fun activities, a time of celebration and a meal. It is completely free. Come exactly as you are - no cost and no expectations for who you are supposed to be.

And if you would like to help at Messy Church, whether with the food, the crafts, the games, the celebration, or just setting up or clearing the hall please have a word with Howard. And one way we can all help is by praying for God to lead, guide, bless and work through Messy Church for His glory and the good of all who come.

If you want to find out more about our Messy Church, please look at our Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/MessyChurchBSF

FOODBANK

Every Thursday 11.00am to 1.00pm

There is still a growing need for the foodbank in the East end of Glasgow. Our client numbers remain steady, although the numbers using foodbanks in general are growing. Our food supplies come from the Hub at Parkhead Calton, but there is a severe shortage of toiletries - toothpaste, toothbrushes, nappies, etc at St Francis, any donations would be very welcome.

Anyone requiring more information please ask any of the team.

- Betty Arbuckle

NOTICEBOARD

Please remember to let the minister know about any of our members who are seriously ill or in hospital. He will never know about it unless someone tells him.

Remember to keep looking at our church notice boards near the lane door, above the hall piano, and in the corridor between the kitchen and session house.

Please remember to look at our table of **FREE LITERATURE** near the front door of the church and take from it anything you want.

If you have an email address, please let Howard know at [**hhudson@churchofscotland.org.uk**](mailto:hhudson@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Please remember to **CLOSE ALL DOORS** behind you when you come into church to keep in the heat.

A very **BIG THANK YOU** to all who donate tea, coffee, etc. It is greatly appreciated.

Thinking about joining the Church? Or wanting to know more about living for Jesus? Then please see the minister as soon as possible so that he can arrange a new series of the **Enquirer's Group** at a time that suits you. The Enquirer's Group meetings are very informal and open to anyone, whether a member of the Church or not, whether wanting to join the Church or not. No pressure is put on anyone to join the Church.

If you want to see the minister on a Sunday, please see him after the service.

There is a **SUGGESTION BOX** on the table at the front door of the church. If you have any helpful suggestions to do with our church, please put them in the box. All suggestions will be carefully considered.

If you are housebound and would like to receive a tape of our Sunday service each week, please let your elder know. We can supply a tape recorder if you don't have one.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Stewardship and Finance Department

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I write to thank you most sincerely for supporting the worship, mission and service of the Church through the money you give in your offerings. It is important that you should know what happens to this money and this letter intends to explain how your congregation's Ministries and Mission Contribution will be used to enable the work of the Church in 2018.

Total Contributions to Ministries and Mission for 2018
£22,602

Ministries (83.5%)

£18,873 of your total contribution will go towards the costs of providing over 750 ministers and other parish workers in communities throughout Scotland and further afield. This contribution also assists with the costs of recruitment and training.

The 2018 cost of a parish minister at the top of the stipend scale is **£42,362** (stipend + employer's NI and pension contributions). If your contribution to Ministries is above this figure, then your church is meeting the full cost of your ministry and supporting other congregations. If it is less than £42,362, your congregation is being supported by other congregations.

Mission (16.5%)

£3,729 of your total contribution will be used to support the Church's work in: resourcing congregations for Christian education and outreach; providing social care services in Christ's name to further the caring work of the Church to people in need; accompanying partners around the world on our shared Christian journey; contributing the Church's opinion in public debate and on issues affecting Scotland and the

World; providing central day-to-day service work in administrative, financial and legal matters; and in planning the General Assembly and ensuring the Moderator represents the Church.

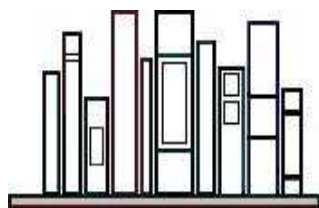
As you will see, the contributions your church makes ensure a very diverse ministry is maintained and that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is shared in many ways and places. Many churches have made additional Ministries and Mission contributions throughout the past year and these have been gratefully received.

- *Archie McDowall*
(Deputy Treasurer – Congregational Finance)

THE ROT'S BEEN STOPPED!

The re-roofing of the north side of the church and leadwork at the tower has now been completed and there is no sign of any further water getting in. All we're waiting for now is for the internal plasterwork round the tower in the balcony to be done and then the work will be complete. Thanks to everyone who made this possible.

CHURCH LIBRARY



The Church Library is open each Sunday, just next to the piano in the main hall, for everyone to use. A wide range of Christian books are available for borrowing, including books on Christian history, biographies, practical books to help you pray, or read your Bible, as well as theology books for anyone wanting to study that bit deeper. Don't forget we also have some videos and tapes available, and that there's something there for everyone including children. Just make a note in the book of anything you take, and enjoy your book. Remember the library is there for *you*.

WEEKLY EVENTS

EVERY SUNDAY

Service	11.00am
Crèche	11.00am
Young Frankies (from Sep 23)	11.00am

EVERY MONDAY

Men's Regnal Circle (from Sep 10)	7.30pm
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EVERY TUESDAY

The Guild (from Oct 2)	1.30pm
Brownies	6.30pm

EVERY WEDNESDAY

See the Minister	1.00pm
Unlock the Gospel of Mark	7.30pm

EVERY THURSDAY

Food Bank	11.00am
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DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER

2	Super Sunday Service	11.00am
5	People's Communion in Church House	7.30pm
15	Messy Church	4-6pm
20	Congregational Board	7.00pm

OCTOBER

11	Kirk Session	1.30pm
13	Church open to receive harvest gifts	12noon
14	Harvest Thanksgiving Service	11.00am
28	Communion Services	11am & 6.30pm

NOVEMBER

9	Act of Remembrance at Bridgeton Cross	10.40am
11	Remembrance Sunday Service	10.50am
15	Congregational Board	7.00pm
24	Christmas Fair	11am-1pm

Anyone wishing to submit material for the magazine should either hand it to Barbara Jennings or email to:

barbara.jennings1@ntlworld.com

The deadline for the Winter 2018 magazine will be

Sunday 18th November 2018