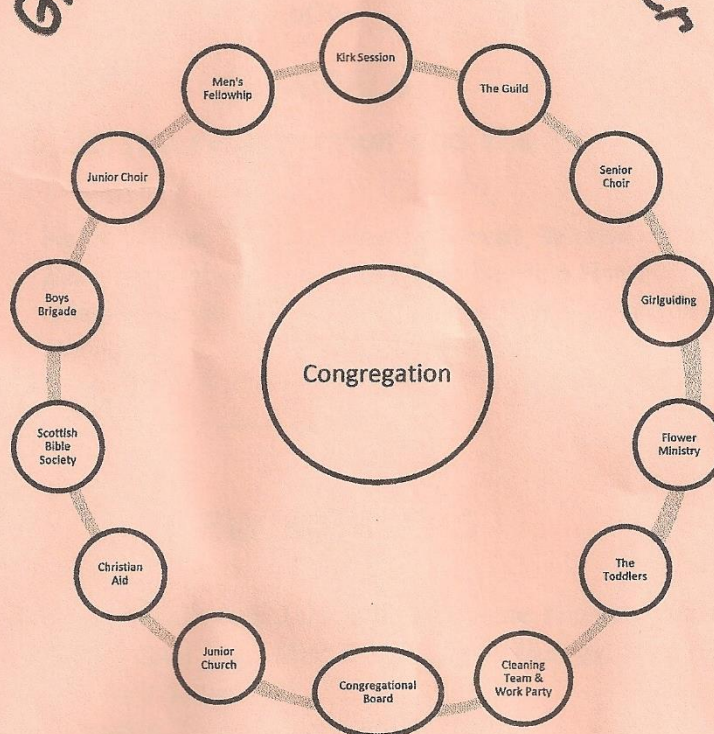


ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity No: SC012233



Growing in faith together



AUTUMN 2018

Bulletin No 337

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

BAPTISM

"Go therefore and baptise"

15 July Alice Eve Henderson
4 Aug Zac Gordon Gunn

-----oOo-----

MARRIAGES

"Whom God hath joined"

22 June Deborah Laughlan and James Shaw
5 July Lisa Sinclair and David Lynch
18 Aug Megan Harkins and Kyle Crozier

-----oOo-----

FUNERALS

"I am the resurrection and the life"

15 June Helen Wilson
3 July Margaret Roberts
23 July Sheena Harvie
26 July Morag Orr

-----oOo-----

NEW MEMBERS

- 2016 *By Transfer:* Mrs Hilary Kidd, Rev John & Mrs Marlene Thomson, Mrs Janet Haugh
 By Profession of faith: Colin Barr, Miss Stephanie McMurray, Miss Kirsty Hannigan,
 Miss Eilidh Hannigan, Mrs Susan Daly
- 2017 *By Resolution:* Mrs Roslyn Thomson, Mrs Agnes Molnar
- 2018 *By Transfer:* Mrs Henderson, Mr & Mrs A Fullerton, Mr & Mrs R Calder, Rev Arthur
 and Mrs Elsie Barrie, Mrs Kirsteen Kennedy
 By Profession of faith: Graeme Brown, Steven Connor, Mrs Gillian Durnien, Miss
 Megan Graham, Mrs Diane McLaughlan
 By Resolution: Mrs & Mrs Henderson



Manse of St Mary's
Autumn 2018

Dear Friends:

Summer Club

One of my favourite Summer songs is Paul Weller's: "*Long Hot Summer*". I play it every June in the vain hope of such a rare occurrence. This year, though, we truly were blessed by a long, hot Summer - the best apparently since 1976.

For a short while, Motherwell looked like earning a place in the Record Books as having the warmest temperature ever recorded in Scotland. The BBC News confidently announced: "*Scotland has recorded its hottest ever temperature, according to provisional figures from the Met Office. On Thursday 28 June, a temperature of 33.2C degrees was measured in Motherwell, North Lanarkshire.*"

Sadly, we were brought back to earth with a bumpy landing just a few days later when the Met Office did some backtracking: "*Subsequent information has cast some doubt on the Motherwell measurement for that day, meaning that we will not be able to accept it as an official new record for Scotland.*" Unfortunately, I couldn't pass any comment as I spent that day on the Isle of Coll - some 150 miles away from Motherwell!

In this long, hot Summer, my personal highlight was St Mary's Annual Summer Club: "*The Greatest Show*". Over the week, nearly 140 children attended - with a daily average of about 110. It was a brilliant week, wonderfully led and organised by our excellent team of leaders and helpers. As Parish Minister, I would like to express my thanks to all involved in such an excellent enterprise. Along with the children of our Parish, I am already looking forward to next year's Summer Club!

Harvest

The ever-ripening fruit on the Manse garden apple trees, is a daily reminder to me that Summer is now waning, and that Autumn is just around the corner. With Autumn comes our Harvest Celebrations.

Harvest is a time to thank God for all the good gifts of creation that we enjoy in our daily lives. As the famous Harvest Hymn proclaims: "***All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above; then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.***"

Harvest is also a time to remember the need to share these gifts with one another. In Acts Chapter 2, the Apostle Paul tells us that sharing was a key feature of the Early Church: "***All who believed were together and had all things in common; and they sold their possessions and goods and distributed them to all, as any had need.***" [Acts 2:44-45].

This Harvest Time, in a world where so much is taken for granted, and where too

little is shared with those in need, may God encourage us to be thankful, compassionate and giving people.

This year, our Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be held on Sunday 7 October at 11.00 am. As normal, our food gifts will be donated to the work of the Motherwell Foodbank. Any monetary gifts received, will be given equally to the work of Glasgow City Mission and the Lodging House Mission - both excellent charities.

Church Services

In the last edition of the Church Magazine, I announced that the Summer Services would be shorter in length at approximately 45 minutes. By-and-large, we managed to achieve this aim!

As we welcome the children and young people of Junior Church back to the opening part of our services, the aim is to keep the services at the one-hour mark. This may be a bit of a challenge on Communion and Baptism Sundays but, as Minister, I promise to do my very best!

Our Sunday Services are now audio recorded every week and can be found on the Church Website: www.stmarysmotherwell.org.uk

Twitter

As well as providing recorded services, St Mary's Parish Church now has a dedicated Twitter Address [@stmarysmwell](https://twitter.com/stmarysmwell) where details about services and Church events can be found.

Please follow us and encourage your friends and family to do so too. Through the medium of Twitter, we hope to further spread the news of all that is going on in our fantastic Church Family.

I also have a Twitter Address [[@bryce_calder](https://twitter.com/bryce_calder)] where I share some of my own personal thoughts about such diverse subjects as: church, theology, football, music, ethics, society and politics. You are also very welcome to follow me.

Closing Thoughts

Helen and I have now been a full year at St Mary's Parish Church. We feel so much at home here in our new Church Family and look forward to the coming year ahead. We love living in the beautiful Manse in Orchard Street and would like to thank you all, once again, for raising such a huge sum of money during the vacancy, over £110,000, to repair the Manse and make it such a special place to live.

In the last few magazines, I have written a short prayer. This time, instead, I have included a poem that I read over the Summer and found very interesting, challenging and vital. It is called "Refugees" by Brian Bilston. As you will see it is a poem with a big twist.

Your Friend & Pastor:

Rev Bryce Calder

REFUGEES

They have no need of our help
So do not tell me
These haggard faces could belong to you or me
Should life have dealt a different hand
We need to see them for who they really are
Chancers and scroungers
Layabouts and loungers
With bombs up their sleeves
Cut-throats and thieves
They are not
Welcome here
We should make them
Go back to where they came from
They cannot
Share our food
Share our homes
Share our countries
Instead let us
Build a wall to keep them out
It is not okay to say
These are people just like us
A place should only belong to those who are
born there
Do not be so stupid to think that
The world can be looked at another way

(now read from bottom to top)
[Written By: Brian Bilston 2016]

THANK YOU FROM SCOTTISH ACTION FOR REFUGEES

A huge thank you from Scottish Action for Refugees (SAFR) and from Helen Calder to everyone in Motherwell St Mary's. Thank you to everyone in the youth organisations, to members of the congregation and their friends and family who donated so generously to the collection that took place at St Mary's on Saturday 19 May 2018. 87 boxes were packed full to the brim with winter clothes, shoes, toiletries, blankets and school supplies. On the day £140 was raised and a further £100 was kindly donated from the Royal Wedding event. Thank you to all the helpers from St Mary's who gave of their time and worked so hard

to set up for the collection; to sort the clothes; to pack the boxes; to carry the boxes down the stairs and to clear up the hall after the event. Special thanks to the Royal Wedding guests for their kind monetary donation and to the bakers who made sweet treats for the helpers.

I am so proud and grateful that St Mary's took part in what was called 'Seven for Syria', so named because sadly there have been 7 long years of war in Syria and SAFR wanted to promote 7 ways for us to help. Since our collection in Motherwell, there have been a further 3 more collections and the final 3 will be 25 August, 1 and 8 September. To date, 400 boxes have been packed and an amazing £1500 has been raised. The boxes will be shipped out in September to arrive in Syria at the beginning of November. This will be SAFR's third shipment of donations from Scotland to Syria. Hand in Hand Syria, SAFR's partner charity on the ground in Syria, will distribute the donations as part of their winter programme and their support programme to schools in Syria.

Further info can be found
www.scottishactionforrefugees.org/events



GREETINGS FROM THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE



As I have just recently taken on the role of Property Convenor this is my first report in the bulletin. I'd like to start by thanking my immediate predecessor William McNair for his dedication and ease of handover, and for all his advice.

Some of the work that is ongoing in the church: our eagle-eyed Church officer Ian Beattie spotted a water leak in the boiler room, this was traced to an ancient pipe under the concrete floor outside the vestry, this has been repaired and the flooring will be replaced in the next few weeks.

The Monday Work Party continue to do sterling work every Monday.

The steps at the front of the church are being stripped by the work party and will be covered in due course by a means still to be decided.

The Menorah lights at the front of the church have been flickering on and off for some time now. They will, by the time you read this have been removed for a full restoration and be back with us soon.

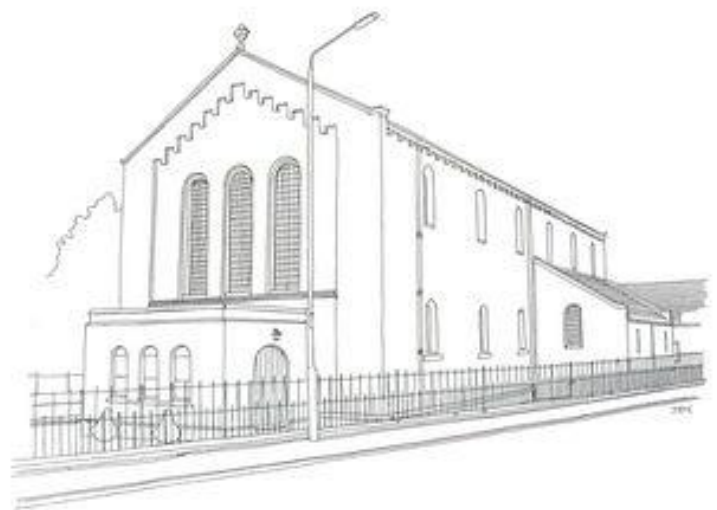
One job that has been completed so far is the war memorial at the front of the church. It has been fully restored and the gold lettering replaced in preparation for the events to mark the 100th anniversary in November, it looks stunning.

Thanks to everyone who helps keep the church in order, particularly our church officer Ian Beattie for his help and assistance.

The Property Committee has been off for the summer months and will meet again in October, should you wish to join the team please speak to me or Bryce.

God Bless

Alan Joyce Jnr



CROSS REACH
providing a caring future

The Tom Allan Centre, home to CrossReach's counselling services in Glasgow now have newly decorated rooms enabling the centre to continue to provide a comfortable and welcoming space for the people who use the service. The Centre was chosen as Marks and Spencer Charity of the Year 2017/18. Staff from the Sauchiehall Street Branch were involved in the refurbishment as part of the company's Make Every Moment Special (MEMS) Initiative. Marks and Spencer also donated £500 for the purchase of paints and materials.



THE GUILD

The Opening Social of the new session is on Monday 1 October when we will be entertained by the Inbetweeners. Our first speaker will be Madge Paterson the 2017 National Guild Convenor who will speak on her visit to Malawi. The Guild Dedication Service will be held on Sunday 21 October.

Prior to the session starting we hope to welcome many of the congregation to the live streaming of the Annual Guild Gathering from Dundee.

We have a new Strategy for the next 3 years and our theme for this year is "Seeking the Way" which we hope will be reflected in the presentations from many of our speakers.

Along with the new Strategy the national Guild have chosen new partner charities for the next 3 years:

Malawi Fruits, Faith in young people, Crossreach, World Mission Council and United Church of Zambia, Sailors Society and Free to Live Trust.

For this year our committee has chosen to support Faith in Young People which is a partnership with Boys Brigade Scotland which will encourage and support inter-generational working and develop growth in faith, growth in community partnerships and growth in young people.

We look forward to meeting up with all the ladies again and hope new members will join us on Monday evenings at 7.30 pm in the Avon Hall. The syllabus for the new year will hopefully provide interesting, informative and entertaining evenings for us all.

We have also been notified that the Capitation Fee for the coming year has increased to £12.

Valerie T Craig
President

STREAMING OF THE GUILD ANNUAL GATHERING FROM DUNDEE

The Guild Annual Gathering will be streamed in the Avon Hall on Saturday 1 September from 10.30 am until 3.30 pm. This is a day of worship, celebration, friendship and fun.

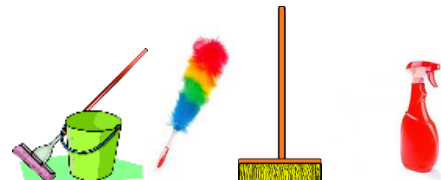
The new strategy for the next 3 years will be launched:

"One journey, many roads".

The Theme for 2018-19 is **"Seeking the Way"**.

You are invited to join us at any time during the day. (A packed lunch can be brought by anyone staying over lunchtime. Tea and Coffee will be provided.)

CLEANING TEAM



The church cleaning team meet on a **Monday morning at 9.30 am** for 2 hours (tea break included!)

Please bring your own marigolds and old towels to be used as rags.

A list of duties has been made up for each room and helpers can choose which job to tackle!

Your help is very much appreciated.

Our next clean is on Monday 27 August.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship resumes the new session at 7.30 pm on Monday 1 October.

As ever the committee have prepared what we hope will be an interesting, informative and entertaining programme, and our thanks are due to the committee for their hard work and to the Secretary Alan Joyce for contacting prospective speakers and coordinating the committee's efforts.

I would take this opportunity to extend an open invitation to all men in the congregation to join this very lively group in the Conference Room any Monday evening they are free, or where there is a subject that may be of special interest and they will be assured of a warm welcome.

Programme for 2018

Month		Subject	Speaker
Oct	1	Opening Night	Rev Bryce Calder
	8	Health & Safety	Ian Graham
	15	SFA Security	Robert Park
	22	Whisky Galore	Chris Mitchell
	29	Police	Kenny Foy
Nov	5	Heritage	Colin Mackenzie
	12	Hearts at War	Tom Purdie
	19	The Year of Young People	Karen Maxwell
	26	Dentist to Mountain Guide	Tom Colquhoun
Dec	3	TBC	Douglas Keith
	10	Bill's Quiz	Bill Taylor

Allan Joyce
President

WORK PARTY

By the time you read this, the Work Party will have completed their various tasks for another year. We have been fortunate in having a new member to join us this year. John Brownlee who lives in Cameron Street, heard about our work, and joined us. He is a welcome addition to our numbers. He also brings down the average age of those in the Work Party!

This year we have been partly redecorating the external railings on Avon Street, and refacing the external double hardwood doors on Cameron Street, as well as other minor items of work, which were essential to maintain the fabric of our property.

By far the most mind-numbing work for some of the Work Party, was the removal of the paint on the chancel steps. Just when we thought that nothing could be more boring than painting the external railings, along comes the need to remove the paint from the chancel steps! However, that task is now complete.

We have some projects pencilled in for 2019, but more of that in the Easter Magazine. We will round off this year's work with a lunch, in a venue yet to be agreed.

Howard Rennie



BASICS FOOD BANK (LANARKSHIRE)

Please continue to donate to this Christian Project which offers support to those who are at a crisis point in their life. It provides family and single packs of food items, non-perishables and a hygiene pack over a two-week period. All packs are given out on a referral basis to people living in our local area.

Donations can be left in the box in the vestibule of the church or in the cupboard in the church kitchen.



Girlguiding has introduced a new programme during the summer.

It is based around 6 new themes including know myself, express myself, be well, have adventures and skills for my future. The themes stay the same through every section so girls can start to develop a skill as a Rainbow, and continue the journey through their time in Guiding. There are skills builder topics covering everything from outdoor adventures and first aid to learning leadership skills. Girls earn a badge for every stage they complete!

The selection of new interest badges will help girls explore their interests and discover brand new ones.

Lots of interesting and exciting times ahead. But change doesn't take place immediately and the old programme continues to run until September next year. Good news for Guides completing the current Baden Powell Challenge and Guiders with stocks of old badges to use up and time needed to become familiar with the new materials.

6A Brownies

The Thursday night Brownies enjoyed a few nights in the Duchess Park because of the great weather. They rounded off a busy session with a Pyjama party full of board games, hot chocolate and cookies on the second last night. The last night of the session was a Summer beach party full of games and crafts. The favourite activity was the sand art pictures made on the grass outside the church.

All were sad to see Snowy Owl, Susan Hurrell, leave us after more than twenty years' service as a Guider. She will be greatly missed in so

many ways but mostly for sharing her baking skills and love of animals. The whole pack send Snowy Owl their very best wishes for the future.

Brownies start back the session on Thursday 6 September.



6B Brownies

In March the Monday Brownies completed their World Guiding Badge, where we had an evening learning about India and Mexico. We were lucky to have some special speakers telling us about their varied experiences in these countries. The Brownies enjoyed hearing all their tales and trying on the various different clothes from India.

We then held various themed nights including a Teddy Bear Picnic night, a Unicorn night and a Moana night. We played games, and created themed crafts, and learned new dances, always ending by eating appropriate themed food.

For our last evening we enjoyed the hospitality of one of our Leader's home where we learned all about the various animals which are resident there. This was very interesting and the girls enjoyed holding the various animals and learning all about them. We then enjoyed hot dogs and a chocolate fountain to round off our evening.

We are looking forward to starting again at the end of August, and are excited to be going on Pack holiday on 7 September.

Anyone wishing to help in our Rainbow, Brownie or Guide units next session should approach any of our Guiders for information or leave their name and contact details in the office.

13th Motherwell Boys' Brigade Company

St. Mary's Parish Church, Avon Street, Motherwell



Sizzling Summer Camp 2018



Summer Camp 2018 will be one of the camps that is talked about for a long time.... the weather at all future camps will be compared to the scorcher that was this year as we returned to Badaguish just outside Aviemore in the Cairngorms for our 2018 Summer Camp.

Getting there....Day 1

With 25 boys and 13 officers, the convoy of 2 minibuses, the Witzemann van (a new camp supporter!), the Chapman's Landrover and trailer and a couple of officers' cars managed to load up and ship out all our camping stuff and luggage for 5 days of adventure.

After a lunch stop in Aviemore we descended on Badaguish and began the process of making ourselves at home - 11 tents had to go up, the kitchen had to be organised, 12 months of dust washed from our travelling crockery and utensils, the mammoth online shop had to be unpacked and the tuck shop retail outlet needed stocked and organised.

At Badaguish we have a great set-up that gives us best of both worlds - plenty of flat dry camping ground complemented by indoor

cooking and dining facilities and a modern toilet/shower block.

The boys made an excellent job of setting up the tents so after an afternoon of settling in we enjoyed our first meal together and then set off for a stroll down to Loch Morlich to enjoy the fabulous evening sunshine. This is always the point at camp when we are reminded just how vicious the Aviemore midges are!!

The (Dreaded) Hillwalk....Day 2

Sunday is the traditional camp hillwalk and is often 'dreaded' by the boys but by the end they usually concede that they have actually enjoyed it. We have our 'usual' camp hillwalk of the Meall a' Bhuachaille loop behind the campsite and in recent years we have also introduced the Chalamain Gap and Lairig Ghru route, but this year the stunning weather forecast allowed us to tackle something even more adventurous - Cairn Gorm and the northern corries or 'the headwalls' as the route is sometimes known. This takes you up from the ski centre car park towards Ben MacDui but crossing and climbing up Cairn Lochan and onto the Cairngorm plateau....a challenging climb in all weathers and especially

when there was no shelter from the sun (am I really writing this??). Seeing the headwall on the climb up was daunting but the view from the edge of the plateau was stunning.

The photo at the top of this article is us at the top of Cairn Gorm - our final climb of the day before the long descent back to the buses!

Activity Days....Day 3 & 4

Monday and Tuesday were both days of organised activities where the main event of the day was provided by an outdoor activity company.

Last year's activities were going to be hard to follow but we always manage to find something new to challenge and excite us! On the first day we were mountain biking on the trails around Grantown and gorge swimming at Bridge of Brown where we explored a very narrow fast flowing and very freezing cold gorge!!

On the second day we tried something completely new - White Water Tubing - essentially throwing yourself down a fast flowing river on a rubber donut - the boys all raved about the experience and the video footage looks great so we are looking forward to seeing the camp film!

What else....?

In between all the planned activities the boys were kept entertained/busy by our staff team in football competitions, a quiz night and a big game of baseball on Loch Morlich beach.

Throughout the camp I provided a live (when the internet signal permitted!) twitter feed from my twitter account @captainmaxi to keep parents and friends up to date with our activities. The photos are still online if you would like to see them and there will be some more posted on the church website. The camp film is currently in the editing suite and will be ready for the early in the new session.....

Thank You

A big thank you to all the parents for the privilege of taking their boys to camp (and for providing us with cakes and biscuits for our suppers!).

Thanks to Mr Bill Taylor our camp chef for providing wonderful meals, doing all the dishes and putting up with all the banter! This year was Bill's final camp after many, many, many years of looking after us at camp and we marked it with a little presentation at the end of camp - Bill will be missed but we also welcomed 'Apprentice Chef' Ian Beattie to camp this year for Bill to train up as his successor!

Thanks are due to Chapman's "The Butchers" for their continued support and to Witzenmann UK our new supporters for the loan of their works van.

Summer Camp 2018 was another great camp in the perfect (if you forget the midges) location with awesome weather that surely cannot be repeated! Camp 2019 is already booked for Sat 29 June to Wed 3 July 2019 and we already have ideas for creating another memorable camp for everyone.....

Captain Stewart Maxwell



St. Mary's Parish Church
Avon Street, Motherwell

Boys' Brigade STARTS BACK SOON!

If you are a boy from P1 - S6 then come along and start your BB Adventure!

Anchor Boys: P1-P3, Fridays 6:15-7:15pm, starts back 31st Aug
Junior Section: P4-P6, Wednesdays 7-8:30pm, starts back 19th Sept
Company Section: P7-S6 Fridays 7-9:30pm, starts back 5th Oct

For more details please contact Stewart Maxwell
stewart@13thmotherwell.org.uk

> the adventure begins here

13th Motherwell Boys' Brigade Company

St. Mary's Parish Church, Avon Street, Motherwell



JUNIOR SECTION UPDATE

The 2017/18 Junior Section session finished with our annual parents' night and prize giving on the 6 June. The night provided the opportunity for all the boys to be presented with their achievement badges and for the officers to award a few special recognition prizes. It also gave the boys the chance to share a glimpse of Junior Section activities and achievements with their parents and families.

The special recognition awards that were given out were as follows:

Inspection Results

Every session night the boys undergo inspection, whereby they are awarded points for each individual aspect of their uniform, clean hands and face, Church attendance and behaviour. The boy with the highest inspection score wins the coveted BBig Cheese Award. There is often a cluster of boys vying for that top spot (often with mere decimal points in it) and so we also recognise 2nd and 3rd place runners up. This year our 3rd place runner up was Kyle Mossman and 2nd place was awarded to Euan Cargill. The winner of the BBig Cheese was, for the 3rd year in a row, Alex Maxwell. This has been the first time that the award has gone to the same boy for 3 years in a row - a remarkable achievement and as a result Alex also received a special trophy to recognise this.

Best in Year

The officers select a boy in each year group to receive a 'best in year' award to acknowledge individual merit. The best in year awards this year were awarded as follows:

1st year - Jamie Reid

2nd year - Zack Fleming

3rd year - Gregor Johnston

These boys all demonstrated a high level of commitment and enthusiasm in every aspect of Junior Section life and as a result were very deserving recipients of these special recognition prizes.

Sportsman and Leading Boy

This year Tyler Weir was awarded our Sportsman trophy due to his keen sense of fair play and the fact that he is an enthusiastic and encouraging team player.

The Junior Section Leading Boy shield was introduced a few years ago to recognise the role of our squad leading boys within the Junior Section. These boys have responsibility for modelling and encouraging good behaviour within their squads. Our Leading Boy trophy this year was awarded to Fraser Neilson due to the excellent example he has set for other boys in the section by consistently paying attention and participating fully in our opening services and achievement classes.

Crawford Award of Effort and Enthusiasm

This award for the boy who has shown the most effort and enthusiasm is voted for by the boys in the section. All boys are eligible for the award and each boy casts an anonymous vote. When the votes were counted the clear winner of the award this year was Charlie Fleck. The officers were delighted to see that Charlie was selected by his peers as his level of determination to take part and willingness to throw his hat into the ring for all BB competitions and events has been outstanding.

Endeavour

The highest award in the Junior Section is the Endeavour Shield. This is presented to the boy who has best exemplified the motto of the Boys Brigade in all his endeavours. This year the Endeavour Shield was awarded to Finlay Bradshaw. Finlay has been an outstanding Junior Section member, with his good natured approach to all tasks and eagerness to work with others making him a very deserving recipient of the award.

Vote of Thanks

The annual parents' night always ends with a vote of thanks to the boys, officers and parents of the Junior Section and I would like to end this article in the same way.

Officers

I particularly want to give my heartfelt thanks to all the officers of the Junior Section who readily stepped up when I was absent for quite a few Wednesdays due to the arrival of my daughter (and our new junior section mascot) Floraidh Mary Laing. It was so reassuring to know that the section was in such safe and trustworthy hands - Junior section literally would not function without them. So to Greg McLaughlan, Gillian Brown, Colin Barr, Stephanie McMurray, Gavin McLaughlan and Graeme Lindsay - I salute you.

Boys and Parents

Give me half the chance and I will delight in telling you about the wonderful boys who make up the Junior Section. I'll readily talk at length about their sense of fun and sharing, their kindness and commitment. I am so thankful to each of them for their ongoing involvement and participation in the Boys Brigade, they are the undoubted stars of the show. And, of course their attendance each week and at competitions and other special events is only possible thanks to the unflinching support of their parents and families. My thanks to them this year also

extends to the generosity and kindness they showed in presenting me with a baby gift for Floraidh at our parents' night. It was so unexpected and humbling - my sincerest thanks to them all.

Upcoming dates for the diary

Junior Section Holiday camp is due to take place on 14th-16th of September and the new 2018/19 session will start back on 19 September at 7.00-8.30 pm.

Stephanie Laing
Officer in Charge

EVENTS ACTION TEAM

We were delighted to welcome Shine Youth Musical Group to St Mary's on the evening of the 1 June for a night of music, theatre and dance from Film and Musicals. The audience were entertained with hits from Half a Sixpence, Children of Eden and the ever popular, The Greatest Showman.

Shine were literally dancing in the aisles and the audience responded with enthusiastic applause and foot tapping. Alan Joyce kindly presented a token of thanks and recognition for 15 years of hard work and dedication of the group and its organisers from the Church.

The team's thanks go to everyone who helped with box office, front of house, home baking, setting and clearing up. The funds raised from the night have been distributed to projects within the Church properties. Looking ahead to the Autumn, the Events Action Team will be supporting the Harvest lunch held after the Harvest festival service in October with ticket information and details to follow. Tickets will be on sale in the Avon Hall.

Finally, our thanks go to the Congregation, Kirk Session and friends of St Mary's for supporting our events and making them a success, it is very much appreciated.

Thanks
The Events Action Team

Junior Church News!



Promotion Sunday

The children of the Junior Church zones celebrated the end of the session in June by contributing to the morning worship at our Promotion Service. A number of children were promoted into new zones and all children received a certificate to mark the end of another busy Junior Church year. The children of the Junior choir also joined us and were presented with YOYP certificates.

Christian Aid

As a Junior Church we have made an excellent contribution to the work of Christian Aid again this year. This will go towards the continuing work in third world countries. A **BIG** thank you to all who supported the children, and CAST group.

Summer Club

Our children enjoyed an action-packed week in July. Please take time to look at our art displays and photographs on display in the halls. We hope you read about our week in the local press!

New Session

The new session is now well under way with a good number of children in each zone. We welcome the children 'back to the pews at the front' next Sunday. On this day we will have a dedication prayer for Junior church.

Our Junior Church postcards are a **GREAT** way of reminding our families of the start back day...I know many of them have pride of place on the fridge door of many houses!! We are particularly delighted to welcome our new Y Zone members as they now take on the roles as helpers in our zones, at their monthly meetings and as they join together for worship on the first Sunday of each month.

Our zone teams have been busy planning for the term ahead. On the first Sunday back the Tots enjoyed lots of fun with the toys with Jillian. The Mini zone shared stories from their holidays during summer, before sharing a story that reminded us that God Loves us all, and everyone is His favourite in their own special way. They then made craft people to display and began work on the paper prayer chain.

The Kids zone and Y zone were very busy with Hazel and the team designing bunting and name cards for the helping tree.

A very busy start for our zones and lots of "Super Sundays" to look forward to.

Come along and join us...

Tots Zone	Babies-3 years	Coffee Bar Jillian/Lorraine
Mini Zone	Age 3-Primary 2	Avon Hall Christine Brown
Kids Zone	Primary 3-7	Cameron Hall Hazel Graham
Y Zone	S 1 +	Cameron Hall Ian Graham

We are always delighted to welcome new families to our Junior Church....so come and join the fun!

Karen Maxwell
Junior Church Co-ordinator



Summer Club



St Mary's Summer Club enjoyed another highly successful week this year. The club has been running in the current format since 2004 and this year, as every year, we welcomed over 100 children every day. We also enjoyed the company of up to 50 teenagers, young adults and more experienced helpers too. It's wonderful to know that while our youngsters return day after day and year after year, the club also appeals to a wide range of adults too. Colouring-in, painting, rounders, playing parachute games, singing and dancing were popular with all ages this year and it was lovely to see different generations of our church family enthusiastically engaged in these activities together.

It has to be said, however, that when it came to meeting Christopher's giant African land snails, our younger participants were a little more enthusiastic than some of the adults.

This year's theme was The Circus and this proved very popular due to the recent musical film 'The Greatest Showman'. The young people, and plenty of the adults too, loved singing along to the sound track. The film's themes of teamwork; accepting the differences of others and being proud of who you are formed the basis of our daily talks provided by Bryce Calder.

Our youngsters are always divided into groups with the older children being led by Hazel Graham and the younger ones led by Jennifer Bradshaw and Joanne Morrison. Due to the warm, dry weather this year a further group of about 30 children were able to play sports in the Duchess Park every morning under the watchful eye of Des Bradshaw and Stuart Davies. Our big art displays, including a trapeze artist; Barnum's large elephant and a giant box of popcorn, were designed by Sarah Reilly and the older children really enjoyed creating these more challenging projects under her expert tuition.

Co-ordinating and catering for large numbers of young children is not easy and we were grateful, as always, to June Graham - known to all of us as Aunt June - and her team who ensured the children (and helpers!) were well fed and watered.

This year's circus theme meant that we took part in lots of side shows in the Avon Hall where we played skittles, made balloon models, played hoopla, hooked a duck and balanced on a tightrope. Other activities included: making juggling balls (and trying to successfully juggle with them!), creating mini trapeze artists, colouring animal masks, split pin clowns, making stilts from tin cans (and trying to balance on them!), eating freshly made pop-corn, singing songs under a parachute tent, attempting to beat the minister at football, designing and decorating our own t-shirts, learning new songs and dances, meeting a scorpion called 'Nipper' and making the ever popular friendship bracelets - a craft which effectively symbolises what this week means to all of those who are involved.

It is really difficult to summarise or put into words the atmosphere of our summer club. It might be described as a 'warm' as 'welcoming' as 'fun-filled' as 'noisy' - yes, it was definitely noisy! The whole building was buzzing, it was a hive of activity with busy helpers, excited children and smiling parents - and that atmosphere existed because of the enthusiasm and dedication of our large team. As leaders we would like to thank all the children who attended; the many teenagers who sacrificed a long lie during their school holidays and to the adult helpers who worked so hard - always with a smile on their faces!

Thank you to you all and here's to St Mary's Summer Club 2019!



YEAR OF YOUNG PEOPLE 2018

SEP	OCT	NOV/DEC
Global Justice	Harvest	Celebration



During the Year of Young People we are encouraged to recognise the impact of teachers, children, youth workers and other supporting adults on young people's lives. Our congregation says a special 'Thank you' to those who have shaped us and those who invest in our children and young people and are helping them reach their full potential.

We pray for our volunteers in our organisations as we start a new session.

Promotion Sunday

The children of the Junior Church zones celebrated the end of the session in June by contributing to the morning worship at our Promotion Service.

The children of the Junior Choir also joined in, making a wonderful musical contribution to the service and were presented with YOYP certificates.

Popcorn production in the kitchen at the Summer Club

Young people from our organisations attended the Summer Club along with many of our "young at heart" members of the congregation to give the children a fabulous week of fun and friendship.



As we enter the beginning of a new session, I hope that all leaders and helpers in our church are feeling refreshed after enjoying a glorious summer.

It has been some time since my last report owing to a fall on black ice and breaking my arm which then led to further complications. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your concern, prayers, cards and flowers which I am sure helped towards my recovery. It makes me thankful to be a member of a church where we are one big family.

In October last year I gave a report on all money, totalling £4,198, which had been raised by the Motherwell Action Group during the session. Bible Society projects in Haiti, Peru and Jordan benefitted from this. Since the beginning of this year the collection and selling of stamps has raised £95. The selling of home-made jam by Ellen Currie brought in a further £80.50. Unfortunately, our concert which was to be held last February had to be cancelled due to ill health.

At the present time we are in the midst of getting volunteers to participate or sponsor our walk which takes place in Strathclyde Country Park. This is in aid of *Work in Iraq*. Almost every Christian family still living in Iraq has been traumatized at different levels. They are suffering from depression and loss of hope. Their future prospects appear dark and unsure. They are living in anxiety and under the fear of continuous displacement. The purpose of this project is to offer training to a dozen of Iraqi Christians in trauma healing to enable them to implement a healing programme in their circles and share their skills with other traumatized communities, such as the Yezidis. The trained trauma team will work out of local churches to select the families in grave need of trauma healing. Food packages will be distributed by the local churches.

Once again I thank you for your loyal support and prayers.

With Christian love

Margaret Carrol

During Christian Aid Week in May, our faithful band of collectors took part in the House-to-House collection. The week finished with the 'Long March' in Strathclyde Park at which Bill Taylor, our official representative, set the example for our young CAST members to follow. The whole congregation contributed through the retiring offerings that were made for four weeks.

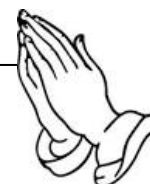
Our church's efforts are much appreciated by Christian Aid and the money we raise is put to good use in support of people in extreme need.

We are all aware of the present refugee crisis, but Christian Aid reminds us that two-thirds of people forced from home are still in their own country. Seeking safety but unwilling or unable to leave, they are denied the official protection given to refugees.

The reasons for their displacement are many: conflict, flooding, drought, fear. Torn from their homes, their families and their communities, displaced people are among the most vulnerable to poverty and exploitation in the world.

Your generosity helps Christian Aid with its work among such people. Please continue to help.

Margaret MacGregor





St Mary's Toddlers

Sponsored 'Wheelie'



At the end of last session the Toddlers had a 'Sponsored Wheelie' round the Duchess Park to raise money for SANDS; the stillbirth and neonatal death charity.

The weather stayed dry and the children had lots of fun 'wheeling' round the park on scooters, bikes, trikes and prams!

We raised a fantastic £805 for SANDS. A huge thank you to everyone on raising such a great amount!



Toddler Trip

Our session ended with a trip to The Rainforest Adventure Soft Play in Motherwell. Both groups enjoyed a lovely morning full of fun and friendship. The children had lots of fun climbing, sliding and exploring while the grown-ups enjoyed some tasty cake with a cuppa!

Our Toddler 'Aunties'

We are very fortunate to have a fantastic team of willing 'Aunties' who support our Toddler groups every week in the kitchen. We would like to thank them all for their continued support.

Waiting List

Both of our Toddler groups are currently full and we have a waiting list for anyone who is looking to join. If you know of anyone who would be interested in our Toddler groups they can email stmarystoddlers100@gmail.com or send a message via our St Mary's Toddlers Facebook page to have their name added to the list. We continually review our registers during the session.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 21st and Friday 24th August for our new Toddler session and wish all the children who have left lots of luck on their next adventure.

If you would like to be added to the list of 'Aunties' to help in the kitchen please speak to Eleanor Simpson or Lesley Niven.

Lesley Niven
Toddler Co-ordinator



THE JUNIOR CHOIR

**Starts back on
Friday 7
September**

Our Junior Choir leader, Marie Maxwell looks forward to meeting you all.

**If you love singing,
then you will love
the Junior Choir!**

**All Children
Primary 2 and
upwards...**

6.15-7.15 pm

on a

Friday night

**Lots of fun with
friends and lots of
singing too!**

**Please bring an A4
folder for your
music and a water
bottle!**

**Parents to drop
off/sign in and
collect in the
Conference Room**

FLOWER LIST

SEPTEMBER

2nd	Miss A Smith
9th	Mrs Loughridge Friends of Irene Nimmo
16th	Mrs Ross Mrs Thomson
23rd	Mrs J Turner Mrs M Joyce Mrs M Bimbi
30th	-

OCTOBER

7th	Mr A Joyce (Jnr) B Aitkenhead
14 th	Mrs A Anderson Mrs S Forrest
21st	Mrs I Dougal Mrs J Findlay Miss V Craig
28th	Mrs Currie

NOVEMBER

4th	Mrs M Graham Mrs B Hamilton Mrs L Huggins Mrs J Weir
11th	Mrs S Sinclair Mrs A Corbett
18th	Mrs M McCloy
25th	Miss J Graham Mrs R Milligan



FORTHCOMING SERVICES

16	September	11.00 am	Sacrament of Communion
7	October	11.00 am	Harvest Thanksgiving
21	October	11.00 am	Guild Dedication Service
11	November	10.45 am	Remembrance Service
11	November	6.30 pm	Special Remembrance Service for ending of WW1
An evening of music and reflections on the subject of war and peace.			

FORTHCOMING EVENT



7 October Harvest Lunch

June Graham - Flower Convener



The Prayer Meeting and Vestry Hour resume on Thursday 6 September

7 pm	Prayer Meeting
7.30 pm	Vestry Hour (Every Thursday except 20 September)