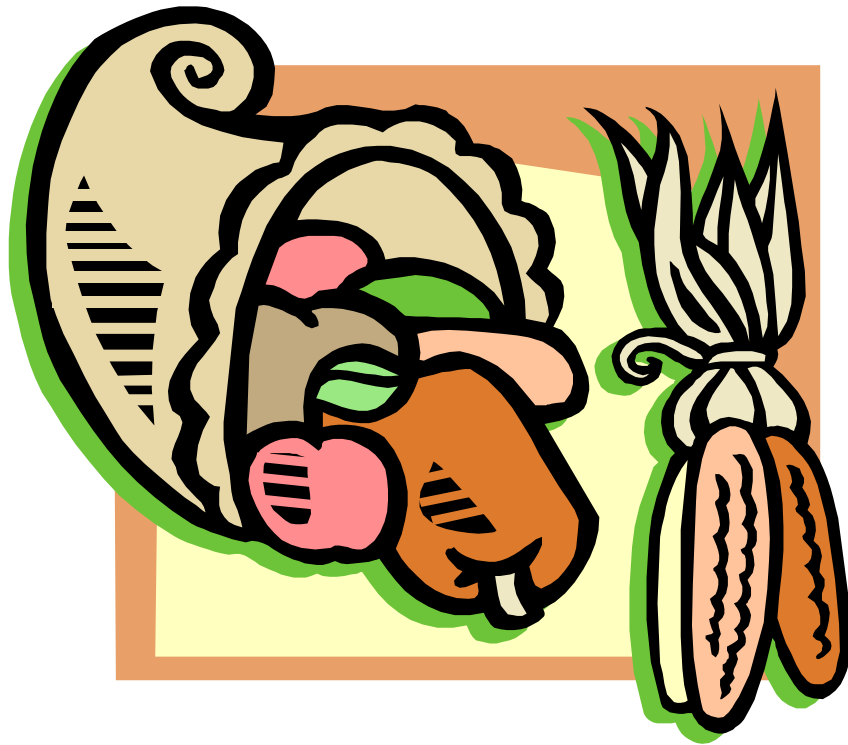


Kilwinning Mansefield Trinity Church

The Challenge

Autumn 2016



“But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”
Matthew 13 v23

Message from our Minister

Dear friends,

Did you watch the Olympic Games and are you going to be watching the Paralympic Games?

As I write this the Olympics are coming to an end and what a feast of talent, skills and commitment we have seen. There are two things stand out for me. The first is the number of medals that the United Kingdom got and the second is the amazing triple - triple that Usain Bolt achieved.

For the size of our population we punch well above our weight, and on this occasion that is not because we have spurious opinions about ourselves being better than others; it is based on attestable facts before us. But we should never underestimate the sacrifices and depth of commitment our sportspeople make to reach their goals. We, the general population, ride proudly on the wave of enthusiasm that all the gold medal winners have achieved, but it is only a few who know the full price of such glory.

We have come to expect that Usain Bolt would win every race he ran, but in one of his interviews before his final race he admitted to being nervous about his racing. Because people began to expect so much from him he felt the burden of that, as well as the hard graft of training for the race. But Bolt's training prepared him well and he won his races.

What about those who never got any prizes? Without them the Olympic Games would be nothing, and there were many of them straining to do their best. In a great many cases they were doing their best, but failing to get one of the top three places. I pay my due respect to every athlete and sportsperson who competed: they all mad the games a joy to watch.

A number of years ago I had the pleasure of keeping safe for a period of time a book which Eric Liddell gave to a friend. Inside the outer cover was written in his own handwriting the words, "*In the dust of defeat as well as in the laurels of victory there is a glory to be found if one has*

done his best.” The great man had learned in his early life that those words were written over the gateway into Pennsylvania University, and he used them whenever he was asked to autograph a book.

It seems to me these words are most apposite to what I am saying. Surely we believe after watching the games that every participant gave of their best. So for those who did not get medals placed round their necks the glory was that they were there, and they made the occasion great for us all. They did their best!

There is a profound Christian principle incorporated in that idea, for in the New Testament there are a number of passages that relate to what went on in ancient games. I leave you with one which should speak to us all, from the opening verses of Hebrews 12, “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith”

Bless you all,

Ross

Message from our Session Clerk:

That will be summer past by the time you read this. It is all too quick. Your nominating committee has been working hard over the summer to achieve its goal, a new minister. It is not an easy task, Alan Ward tells us that there is one hundred and eighty vacant parishes in Scotland at the moment. Any minister looking for a new charge has plenty of choice.

It has been upsetting to lose a number of members lately and have members who are missing due to illness. I hope and pray that they will return to us in good health in the near future.

As you are aware we are looking at moving to a Unitary Constitution in the near future. This will give the opportunity to members of the congregation to get more involved in the running of the church through

working with committees and groups and to feel more part of how we run things. Please give some thought to this, you have plenty of time, as it will be some time before the new constitution comes into being I hope you have had a happy time during the summer and we can all look forward to the future in Mansfield Trinity.

God bless to all.
Ian



CHURCH REGISTER

Adult Baptism

Christine Walker on 5th June

Funerals *"Blessed are those who mourn, for God will comfort them"*

Debbie Lily Clark (Buchannan) 13th June (Parish)

Molly Chrystie 8th August

Lorna McLean 19th August

New Members admitted on Sunday 5th June

Christine Walker

Natasha Leitch

Back to Church Sunday – 11th September

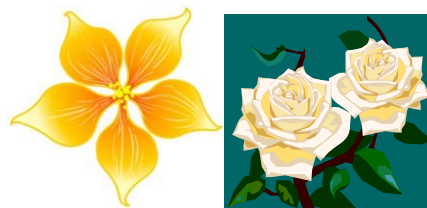
On Sunday 11th September Rev Mitchell will be following a “back to church” theme that day. If you have drifted away from church attendance or become a bit careless about being part of the worshipping church, here is your chance to step back in!

The worship will have in mind that we are all returning to church in one way or another, so you won't stand out like a sore thumb – you will be very welcome.

Tuesday Cafe

The Café started back on August 23rd. We are open every Tuesday from 1030am to 1pm. Donations of soup, home baking, tea, coffee, sugar etc will as always be very much appreciated. We look forward to seeing you there.

The Tuesday Cafe Staff



FLOWER CALENDAR

I would like to thank everyone who has donated flowers for the Church, also thanks to everyone who donates via the flower box. Every donation is appreciated. The flowers go to the sick, bereaved and housebound, they help to brighten their day and lets them know they

are in our thoughts and prayers. There are still some dates available on the calendar up to the end of the year.

Thank you
Gods Blessing

Margaret Mackenzie – Flower Convenor
Tel 01294 551406

Guild

The Guild Session for 2016/17 will resume on Thursday 6th October at 730pm in the church hall. This session the two guild projects we will be supporting are “Haiti Project” and “Let’s stick together” (Care for the Family). We also have a variety of speakers organised.

On Saturday 3rd September five of us are attending the Guild Annual Meeting in Dundee. We look forward to welcoming “old” and new members. Remember that men can also become members of the Guild.

Margaret Brown
Convenor





Treasurers Report

Below are the figures for the period January to June 2016.

Income		Expenditure	
Offerings	£13312.06	Ministries & Mission	£11310.00
Standing Orders	£6640	Church	
Donations & Hall Lets	£2357	Phone and Broadband	£203.85
Church of Scotland	£1733.11	Electricity	£423
		Gas	£6080.85
Coin a Day	£131.44	Church Insurance	£807.26
		Manse Electric and Gas	£149.64
Cafe	£3244.85	Manse Garden	£120
		Reids Food Service	£1113.93
		Cleaner	£1080
		Hall Keeper	£2252
		Organist	£1100
		Locum	£5764.20
Fundraising	£1674.37	Pulpit Supply	£283
		Photocopier	£185.70
		Compassion	£150
		Gifts	£20
Council Tax Refund	£758.32	Donation Envelopes	£214.48
Tea Money	£56	Presbytery Dues	£717.50
		Window Cleaner	£64
		Projector Bulbs	£326.39
		Taxis	£387
		Sound System CCLI	£2967.74
		Cleaning Materials	£269.75
		Life and Work	£144.14
		Fabric	£829.39
Total	£29907.15	Total	£36963.82



Fundraising update

Since the last edition of the Challenge we have had our Summer Fayre which was held on Saturday 25th June. A big thank you to everyone who supported our event. So far our events in 2016 have raised a total of £1711.93.

Easter Coffee Morning £418.37

Afternoon Tea £505.60

Summer Fayre £787.96

The Fundraising Committee are currently working on a series of fundraising events to take us through Autumn and on to Christmas. Please listen for announcements in Church and come along and give us your support.

Thanks

Lorraine Seivwright

Stewardship Update

Hope you all had a refreshing break over the summer months and feel refreshed as we enter the Autumn and dare I say Winter. As for the Stewardship things have been quiet for a number of months due to the holidays. We are now looking at an Evening in October that we are having our Stewardship Campaign which will be on the topic of Money which we will include a fish and chip night along with it. This will be held in October date to be confirmed. We will keep you informed.



Eco Congregation news

Greening our places of worship can only ever be a starting point. For greater change to happen it requires every member of a congregation/parish to take the same ideas into their homes and places of work. What goes for church buildings and grounds goes for our homes and workplaces as well. Small changes, bigger ones when the opportunity is right, all play a part in the work of change and renewal that Eco-Congregation Scotland encourages.

In this core area, therefore, the focus becomes all the places beyond our places of worship. Each member of a parish/congregation has a life where they have influence and authority in some form or other. Having changed our own lives through the work done in our congregations, we now seek to change the lives of others. We do this by influencing attitudes, by taking action in the local community, and by being committed to global citizenship.

This core area works at many different levels. We all have the power to make choices, and those choices determine many other things – what is produced, what is sold, what is conserved, what is wasted and so on. The choices we make also influence the lives of many others. A choice for fair-trade shopping, for example, is a choice which has a positive impact on the lives of people we are never likely to meet, but whom we will benefit greatly. At the same time, a choice to shop at a local farmers market reduces food miles, ensures fresh produce, and enhances the local economy. Re-using and recycling items we have purchased reduces demands on increasingly scarce natural resources. Living more sustainably both as individuals and communities enables us to express our solidarity with those parts of the world where the impacts of global change are already part of everyday life.

In addition to matters that concern our own lifestyle changes, changes in the local community, and our global concern for neighbour love, this core area offers practical advice on major issues such as climate change and calculating and reducing our own carbon footprint.

It is a core area that allows us to realise our congregations/parishes are a major force for good and for change; changes which begin but do not end with ourselves. It provides opportunities for eco-congregations to go out and to bear fruit that will last.

Anne Inglis



Church Website / Facebook

Our website is an important resource in helping us to communicate with existing members of the congregation and the wider community. It provides up to date information on service times, forthcoming events and activities of the different groups.

Please go on and have a browse -

www.<http://kilwinningmansefieldtrinity.org/>

Our Facebook page is updated regularly with details of church activities, including photographs. This is just one of the ways that we are looking to improve communication to the church congregation and the local community.

We have 63 likes, which helps direct our activities to these peoples news feeds. If you haven't already had a look, please search under Mansefield Trinity Church and feel free to invite friends to like the page too. If you'd be interested in becoming an administrator for the page please speak to Jim Watson or Vicky Black.

The Craft Class



The craft class commences on Monday 19th September between 7pm and 9pm. The class has a number of regulars but new members would be more than welcome.

The cost is £2 to cover the craft you make and take away, tea, coffee and biscuits.

We will start this terms programme off by getting ready for Christmas.

The Sunday School

The Sunday School resumes on Sunday 11th September during morning worship. Creche facilities will also commence on the same day for children aged up to 3 years old. The Sunday School caters for ages 3-13 years.

We hope everyone has had a lovely holiday and look forward to welcoming all the children back. New members/children will be made very welcome.

If you would like to be involved with the Sunday School or Creche please speak to me. PVG is essential but can be obtained through the Church of Scotland.

Margaret Mackenzie



Messy Church takes place on the first Saturday of each month, excepting January, July and August from 4pm – 6pm
All are welcome, but remember that our young people must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

September 3rd

The theme on that day will be Creation.

The beautiful creation story in Genesis reminds us of God as the origin of everything, including our own creativity. We have a key story to explore and wonder at, it shows God as the creator of the world we live in and one who is intimately involved in that world.

Activities on the day, making windmills, sand art, earth balloons, rainbows and “Edible Eden”

October 1st

The theme on this day will be, “I am the light for the world”

We will explore the theme of light at a dark time of year, both actual light and the symbolism of light.

Jesus describes himself as the light for the world (John 8:12) The symbolism echoes through the Bible right from God’s first recorded words, “I command light to shine”

Activities on the day, making lanterns, candles, mad hats and kaleidoscopes

Lynne Bennett



2nd Kilwinning Boys' Brigade

The Company is starting back our new session which is the Company's 8th session!

The Anchor Boys (P1 to P3) will be holding their registration on Monday 29th August from 630-730pm in the Congregational Church hall and then from Monday 5th September will be meeting every Monday in the same place from 630-745pm.

The Company and Junior sections will be holding their registration on Friday 26th August in the Abbey Hall from 7-8pm. The Junior section will be meeting every Friday from the 2nd September in the Abbey Hall from 630-745pm while the Company section will meet from the same date in the Abbey Hall from 8-10pm.

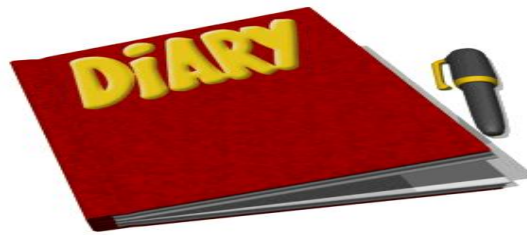
Some of the Company section boys have been busy during the summer by helping to put up marquees in Ardrossan, West Kilbride, Eglinton Park and Irvine Moor.

Also on Saturday 20th August at the Marymass events on Irvine Moor some of the boys helped to keep the moor tidy by picking up the litter.

Once again we are looking for anyone who can help out in the Company because due to the lack of officers it's getting near impossible to cover all of the activities. If you can spare a few hours please contact me.

Captain
John Boyd

Dates for the Diary



4th September – Sacrament of Communion

11th September – Back to Church Sunday

13th September and 8th November – Kirk Session meets at 730pm.



The Church of Scotland Website

The Church of Scotland website contains many interesting articles and the Church is making good use of social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter.

Who's Who in Your Church

Session Clerk	Ian Hackney	Tel: 551264
Treasurer	Iain Inglis	Tel: 558288
Clerk to the Board	Karen Agnew	Tel: 556129
Church Officer	John Porter	Tel: 552013
WFO and Gift Aid	Margaret Brown	Tel: 550808
Hall-keeper	David Bennett	Tel: 07748597957
Property/Hall Lets	George McMurtrie	Tel: 557201
Roll Keeper	Ann McManus	Tel: 554131
Pastoral Care	May Burns	Tel: 551066
Flower Convener	Margaret Mackenzie	Tel: 551406
Magazine Editor	Vicky Black	Tel: 559137

Vision Statements

- from our church website:

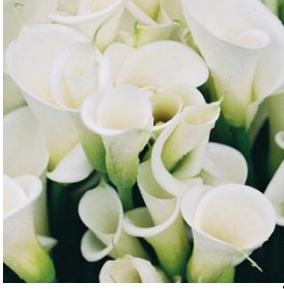
Mansefield Trinity Church: the loving heart of Jesus in our community



- from the Church of Scotland website:

The vision of the Church of Scotland is to be a church which seeks to inspire the people of Scotland and beyond with the Good News of Jesus Christ through enthusiastic worshipping, witnessing, nurturing and serving communities.





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“At A & I Inglis Funeral Directors we feel extremely privileged to take care of all the practical matters surrounding bereavement, giving you peace of mind, knowing that the quality of our service and reputation will help you through this most difficult time.”

We arrange funerals that reflect and incorporate the wishes of the individual, their family and friends.

- *Funerals arranged at home/office*
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- *Professional Caring Staff*
- *24 hour call out service*
- *Pre-Payment Plans*

We offer our clients Funeral Pre-Payment Plans that are tailored to each individual's wishes. We are authorised by The Funeral Planning Authorities. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you are interested in a Plan or simply want to ask more about it.

*54 Townhead, Irvine KA12 0BE 01294 27737748
Princes Street, Ardrossan KA22 8DF 01294 537900*

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