

April 2016

Life

In



Netherlee



Kirk

## Services and Events in April



Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	10.30 am	Morning Worship
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	10.30 am	Morning Worship
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	10.30 am	Morning Worship
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	10.30 am	Morning Worship
	12 noon	Stated Annual Meeting of the Congregation
	6.30 pm	Parade of Uniformed organisations
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	10.30 am	Morning Worship

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**All welcome at Open Door**

**Every Wednesday morning at 10am**

A short service of worship in the Lesser Sanctuary

followed by tea and coffee in the Large Hall

The BB minibus is available to convey anyone to and from the church. Please contact John Montgomery on 0141 637 2416

## From the Minister

Dear friends,



We have just had the inestimable privilege of celebrating another Easter, recalling the account of Jesus' combat against evil to win the victory for us. Following His triumphal entry into Jerusalem proclaiming His kingship, Jesus suffered betrayal, abandonment, false accusations, beatings, and even death itself – all of which He endured to present us with the prospect of life, through the glorious resurrection.

Corrie Ten Boom, the Dutch woman imprisoned during the Second World War, said that "There is no pit so deep that God's love is not deeper still". She endured unimaginable hardship but found strength in the knowledge that Jesus overcame suffering and even death itself. One of the great consequences of Easter is that He gives us hope. There is a marvellous line in one of Stuart Townend's songs, "There is a hope that stands the test of time that gives us strength for every passing day." Hope is a powerful gift and motivator. It is hope that has driven tens of thousands of men, women and children to flee conflict in Syria, risking their lives to find a better life in Europe. We have seen desperate attempts to cross the sea, rivers and numerous borders in the hope of reaching peace and safety.

Hope drives us all on and without it we are lost. When all hope is gone, men and women give up and life is lost.

As Christians therefore we have a powerful message of hope to share. The Easter story of Jesus death on the cross and ultimate victory is a treasured gift for us to embrace for ourselves, and to share with others. It is something we are blessed with in no small measure. Paul declared in his letter to the Romans, "And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us". Romans 5:5

May God grant you faith, hope and love this Easter season,

*Rev Tom Nelson*

## KIRK SESSION

Since last month, although there has been no formal meeting of the Kirk Session our total focus has been on completing the 2015 Annual Report & Accounts for the Stated Annual meeting. Those of you who have been attending worship regularly will be aware that we have **changed the date of the Stated Annual Meeting** from 20 March to (finally) **the 24 April 2016 at 12.00 noon in the main sanctuary.** Changes required by a new SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice ) from the Accounting profession, enhanced OSCR requirements and finally format alterations from the Church of Scotland have combined to tax the patience of myself, the Treasurer and the independent examiner and other churches within the Presbytery to such an extent that the Presbytery of Glasgow has allowed those of us who need it, up to 30<sup>th</sup> April to hold our Stated Annual Meeting and up till then to file our Report and Accounts. This relaxation is for 2016 only. We are taking advantage of it to ensure that we comply fully with the new requirements.

It was a great delight on Sunday 21 February for Tom to present **Long Service Certificates** recognising 30 years service as an Elder by David Hunt, 32 years service by Jean Balfour, Mabel Bell, Doris Duncan, Margaret Fear, May McFadyean, Pat McKenzie and Eunice Smith and 35 years service by Alistair Gow. There were also certificates presented to retiring Congregational Board Members, to Dennis Burt with 44 years service, to Mike Buchan and Alan Edgar with 31 years service and to Allan Mathieson with 30 years service . All the certificates presented were signed by the current Moderator of the General Assembly the Rt. Rev. Dr. Angus Morrison.

In addition Tom presented 22 Netherlee produced certificates to retiring Board members with less than 30 years service, to mark the end of an era as we changed to the Unitary Constitution and did away with the need for a Congregational Board. The congregation thanked them all for their long and devoted service to the Church.

**The Stanley D Mair** lecturer this year was the **Rev. Dr. Stephen Ferris** and as required by the Trust he preached in Netherlee on Sunday 28 February. A renowned academic and outstanding orator he held the congregation spell bound with his preaching which he appeared to do without any notes. When he finished the silence was breathtaking. It has

been a long time since I have heard such powerful preaching in Netherlee (and that is not to diminish what Tom does each Sunday). Given that Stephen was suffering from a painful stomach upset makes what he said to us all the more remarkable. Students at Glasgow University were indeed very fortunate this year.

**Communion** on the 6<sup>th</sup> March saw our numbers down slightly at 200 in the morning and 15 in the afternoon. The introduction of puppets into worship might have been thought by some to detract from the solemnity of the service but in fact it was woven into the theme of the service and was very well received by the congregation and the children. Our thanks to our two puppeteers for their hard work (Ben Crawford and Cara McQueen). On the following Wednesday some 43 people attended the 10.00 am mid week service and took Communion which was better than the previous attendance. We clearly are meeting a need within our congregation.

On Monday 7 March the Trustees of Netherlee Church met and after listening to a presentation by the Clerk and the Treasurer approved the **draft Report and Accounts** for 2015 with the caveat that the presentation of parts of the report and some of the accounting schedules would require to be altered to comply with the new regulations mentioned earlier, but there would be no change to the substance of the accounts.

I would like to thank all the members of the congregation who have signed and returned the **Data Protection Act letter**. I am sure that there are still some to be returned so please don't wait until the next visit by your elder before returning them. Either mail it to me at the church or hand it in to any of the office bearers on duty on a Sunday morning.

On Friday 11 March I attended a training day on **Ageing Well** organised by Glasgow Presbytery in the City Chambers. I attended 2 of the workshops on "Caring for Carers" and "Living with Dementia". Both were very instructive and listening to the personal experiences from each was very revealing. The chap who had dementia was able now to lecture on the subject to local groups and emphasised that there is life after dementia. The personal experience of a carer would have made you cry but this lady had set up a consultancy to help carers get the support they needed and were entitled to. She was a fighter and was passionate on the subject of the help that carers needed. I would have liked to attend some of the other workshops

on “Faith in Older People”, “Poverty and Older People” “Mission and older people” and “Working with care Homes”, but I was limited to only 2 which was a bit of a disappointment.

Looking forward to Easter and to the **Maundy Thursday** service in Stamperland at 7.00 pm on Thursday 24 March, and the short service on Good Friday in **Netherlee at 2.00 pm** to be conducted by the rector of St Aidan's the Rev. Nicholas Taylor and his theme will be “From a Distance”. I am also looking forward to the Good Friday service in Netherlee at 7.30 pm when we will be joined by Stamperland and led by the choir.

On Easter day we have the early start service in the Linn Park at 7.00 am jointly with Stamperland, followed by breakfast afterwards in Netherlee. It will be followed at 10.30 am with our usual family Easter day service and Communion with an Easter egg hunt afterwards for the children. All of these events will be over by the time LINK is published so I hope you will have been able to join in some of what was on offer this Easter.

On 4 April we will have our **next joint meeting** with Stamperland when we need to agree the Presbytery Draft Plan for Deferred Linkage leading to Union before we can ask each congregation to vote on it.

The Presbytery has also agreed to changing the **buildings category for Stamperland** from a 4 (i.e. future undecided) to a 1 (will remain open for worship for at least the duration of the current Presbytery Plan - until 2022). This creates a level playing field as Netherlee's buildings were already a Category1.

The next normal meeting of the Kirk Session is Tuesday 5 April after which I should have some more information to pass on to you.

During week commencing 11 April we will have our annual inspection of records by the Presbytery to look forward to.

A reminder that the annual parade of Uniformed Organisations will take place on Sunday 24 April at 6.30 pm

*John Montgomery*  
Session Clerk



This is a free low-resolution sample from Thaneeya McArdle's book of *Abstract Coloring Pages*. Please see [www.art-is-fun.com/abstract-coloring-pages.html](http://www.art-is-fun.com/abstract-coloring-pages.html) for the high-res versions, which are sized to fill up typical 8.5" x 11" or A4 sheets of paper with sharp, clear lines for awesome print quality.

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Looking for an hour of relaxation.....

Sit down in a comfy chair with a cup of tea, a pack of coloured pencils and colour in the picture.

Honestly, it's not only children who enjoy this activity.



## **MACKINTOSH: MAN OF THE REAL AND OF THE UNREAL**

The March, and last meeting of the current session, was addressed by Professor Christopher Platt, Head of the Mackintosh School of Architecture on the subject of architect, Charles Rennie Mackintosh and most prominent building, the Glasgow School of Art. Chris, as he is better known to many, a near neighbour of Netherlee Church is well qualified to address on this subject having been involved for many years with the School. He delivered his talk in three sections and with great articulation. He spoke of Mackintosh as a private man, not really part of the current architectural circle of the day, and yet delivering a quality of architectural design, not well regarded in his day, and yet which has endured to become an icon of world architecture, and much loved by all, as was proved by the world wide wave of emotion and support following the tragic fire on the 23 May 2014. Why asked Chris, had the building commanded such respect?

Chris moved on to describe the design of the building, built in two phases, the east wing in 1897 when Mackintosh was twenty nine, and the west wing in 1909, to form a complete and unified design. Chris demonstrated that the building, whilst unique, fitted comfortably within the built fabric of Glasgow. He suggested that the north and main elevation consisted of two architectural styles – the main entrance with the Director’s Office and Studio over on its own could stand in the city as a town house, whilst the two wings with large studio windows (the finest art studios in the world) was almost industrial in style, yet forming a complete and perfectly unified composition.

Looking at the construction of the building, the forensic examination revealed that Mackintosh was not working with the finest craftsmen, but rather with good quality joiners, and the sometimes intricate joinerwork of the Library – the finest room in Europe – consisted in fact by pieces of pine, sometimes shaped, and nailed together to give superb effect. Chris then used a student project of drawings to show the intricate layering of construction.



Chris completed his talk by showing a digital presentation created by the Fire Service to illustrate the results of their post fire forensic examination, which illustrated how the fire started, how it progressed through the building using in particular the vertical ducts of Mackintosh's innovative ventilation system, and concluded with a description of how they put fire-stops on each of the braches of the fire, and as all souls were mercifully safe and accounted for, were able to commence removing some of the priceless artefacts. Sadly the structure of the world renowned Library, and the store over, containing items of Mackintosh furniture, not currently on show to the public, were lost. On the positive side, Chris was able to describe how many of the treasures were saved by the firemen, and were receiving the most careful restoration.

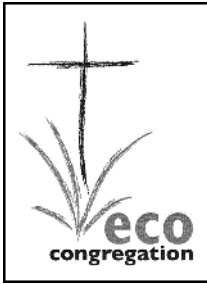
I was impressed by the awareness of the fire officers and their knowledge of the quality of the building, and such was the gratitude of the staff and pupils that the fire engines were cheered along Renfrew Street as they drove away, by the traumatized but grateful students and staff lining the street. Subsequently the School struck a special Newberry Medal to be presented to the firemen at the next graduation ceremony, as a mark of their gratitude.

The meeting was clearly affected by this digital demonstration – it was an emotional experience for me as these were the rooms I populated whilst an architectural student.

Question time was of typical Netherlee searching style, answered competently by Chris Platt. This did however reveal the nature of the works which had been undertaken to date to render the building ready for reconstruction. News was received that five major contractors are now being interviewed preparatory to tendering for the reconstruction – and reinstatement of the Library as was!

*David J Leslie*

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## Eco-Congregation Scotland

The Annual Gathering of Eco-Congregation Scotland will take place on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth. The theme for the day is "A Space for Nature in your Congregation". The keynote speakers are Stuart Housden (Head of RSPB in Scotland) and Andy Lester of

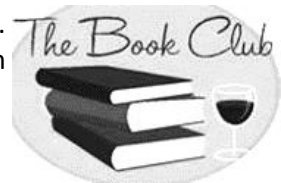
A Rocha UK. I know it will be an interesting day. All those people who have bird feeders and nest boxes I am sure will get hints on encouraging a wide range of birds to their gardens.

We have appointed a replacement for Margaret Warnock who has worked with congregations and networks. David Bethune is based in Selkirk and was very influential in getting solar panels fitted on the roof of Selkirk Parish Church. We look forward to new developments and activities.

*Sheena Wurthmann*

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The April book is Anna Quindlen's "Blessings". This is a new author for me but I found this an absorbing read.



If you would like to join us on our next meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> May we will be reviewing Maeve Binchy's "The Evening Class". We will be meeting at 8.00pm at 17 Ormonde Avenue.

*Sheena Wurthmann*

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## LIFE AND WORK APRIL 2016

### **Faith and Finance**

Should the Church of Scotland divest from fossil fuels?

Interview with Charles Munn, elder, economics professor and convener of the Church's Special Commission on the Purposes of Economic Activity  
Two ministers reflect on past careers in the banking industry

### **The Privilege of Chaplaincy**

The Rev Chris Kellock offers an insight into the life of a military chaplain

### **Bridging the Gap**

Dr Murdo Macdonald shares stories of church-sponsored projects closing the digital divide

### **Creative Theology**

Ron Ferguson argues that the Church of Scotland needs both conservatives and liberals

### **Unity of Church 'Of Fundamental Importance'**

In his final column, the Rt Rev Dr Angus Morrison explains the importance of seeking unity

### **A Passion for Justice**

Reflecting on a recent trip to Egypt, Hannah Mary Goodlad considers the plight of refugees and the need for tolerance

### **Image Over Word**

The Rev Alastair Duncan considers the place and power of art in the Church today

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## Sunday Club stirs things up!

The Netherlee Sunday Club would like to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone who supported our Stir it up Lunch. The Sunday Club, parents, congregation and friends all helped to raise an amazing £950 for Tearfund. This has been topped up and a donation of £1000 has been made. Inspired by the Tearfund appeal, the Sunday Club decided to take a break this year from our traditional spring coffee morning. Stir it up is normally a supper where congregation members bring along a dish to share. This time the Sunday Clubbers thought they would treat you to some homemade soup and home baking. In the weeks before the lunch the children made posters advertising the event and started to get the tombola ready. On the afternoon before the event a small army of kids descended on our new kitchen and prepared all the vegetables and set the table. The soup fairy worked her magic on Sunday morning and fresh soup and bread was waiting at the end of the morning service.

We had also promised food for thought and before we ate, the children introduced the topic of the mustard seed through a slide show. We learned how Tearfund helped a village in Malawi, recover their farmland after devastating floods. The funding not only helped the community to clear the land covered by sand making it is fertile again, but they planted trees and built a wall to protect the community in the future. Everyone was invited to add a mustard seed to our tree. Jesus said: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.' Matthew 13:31-32. It was very appropriate to have the Ecobaton with us as we reflected on the effects of climate change. Cameron read the grace and we tucked in! We hope you enjoyed the soup and homebaking as much as we enjoyed the fun and fellowship.

On Mothers' Day our very creative children made gifts to take home. They included **BUTTONS**—because you hold everything together, **CANDLE**—because you're my guiding light, **HEART**—because you love me **CHOCOLATE**—because you're sweet **FLOWER**—because you're beautiful.

*Elaine Murray*

## **Trussell Trust Scotland Fundraising**

It never ceases to amaze me how generous my friends and fellow worshippers from Netherlee Church are. Due to your support we have raised £323 from the raffle of the two hampers. Thank you so much. This would not have been possible without contributions from Dagmar Kerr who donated the luxury hamper with crockery, cutlery and glass wear and Sandra MacKinnon who donated the second hamper and filled both with luxury goods. My heartfelt thanks to you both.

The next fundraising event is of course the dinner on 23 April. Tickets are available now for what should be a very enjoyable evening. It is a three course meal with tea and coffee. There will be a cold starter followed by either beef stroganoff or chicken curry and finished of with a selection of sweets. I am hoping for sweets to be donated. Please let me know if you wish to contribute.

There will be a further fundraising event though a date has not been set. Nicola Wilson has offered to do a pampering class so watch this space. The final fundraiser will be in December as Dagmar has gifted another hamper which will be filled with goodies and raffled. Thanks again Dagmar.

Thank you all for your continued support.

*Ann Hodge*

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## **Kilombero Rice**

The bags of rice are selling steadily. I am sorry that this delivery is only white rice but I hope that we can get some brown rice soon. Please think about stocking some reserves for the times when there is no rice. A kilogram bag costs £3.50 and at this price the farmer has enough money to not only keep his family between harvests but also send a child to secondary school. The situation in Malawi (globally the poorest country) has been very bad where severe drought was followed by torrential rain that washed out the seeds for maize. The rice harvest is vital.

*Sheena Wurthmann*

# CHARITY TABLE TOP SALE - SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2-4PM, SCOUT HALL, ORMONDE DRIVE

Spend your Mayday Sunday afternoon supporting good causes and bring home some fabulous bargains. A table

**TABLETOP  
JUMBLE SALE**



top sale is being held in the Scout Hall, Ormonde Drive, in support of



various charities and fund raising goals of pupils at Williamwood High School. For music

charities, Malawi funds and more, we will be selling all sorts of treasures, new, nearly new & vintage - bric-a-brac, household items, books, gardening equipment, toiletries and clothes, home-made cakes & jams, tablet

and other treats. Win something special on our tombola too! FREE ENTRY. Donations of items to sell or tombola prizes are very welcome – please contact Anna Skuodas

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We enjoyed the York Course on the psalms. We found ourselves reading and reviewing the psalms with more thought and insight.

Inspired by the Stanley Mair lecturer, Stephen Ferris, when he preached to us recently we are going to sample one of his books "Grace".

If you would like to join us – it is an early start 9.00am in the Waiting Room.

*Sheena Wurthmann*

# Church Register



## Disjunctions

6502 Mrs Ailsa MacLennan, 16 Ormonde Avenue      17 Bruce Young  
6501 Mr Donald MacLennan,      “      “

6202 Mr Scott McKenzie, 48 Duntocher Road      91 Mabel Bell  
Glasgow G81 3LN

## Trussell Trust Scotland Hamper Raffles



Lucky winners of the raffles were:

Mary Loose - Basic Hamper

Margaret Wyper - Luxury Hamper

Both ladies were delighted with their prizes.

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\* **Flower Rota—April** \*  
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\* \*  
\* **April 3 Ron Dobson** \*  
\* **April 10 Irene Carmichael** \*  
\* **April 17 Irene Morton** \*  
\* **April 24 Myra Burt** \*  
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May edition of LINK

Copy deadline for  
May LINK is Sunday  
17th April 2016.

Articles should be sent to the Editor

[link@netherleechurch.org](mailto:link@netherleechurch.org)



# Minister and Office Bearers of Netherlee Parish Church

**MINISTER: Rev Tom Nelson, B.Sc., B.D.**  
**25 Ormonde Avenue, Netherlee, G44 3QY**  
**Tel. 0141 585 7502**  
[TNelson@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:TNelson@churchofscotland.org.uk)

## **MINISTERIAL ASSISTANT**

Rev David Maxwell, B.Ed., B.A.(Hons.), M.A.  
[david.maxwell7@ntlworld.com](mailto:david.maxwell7@ntlworld.com)

## **SESSION CLERK**

John Montgomery  
[sessionclerk@netherleechurch.org](mailto:sessionclerk@netherleechurch.org)

## **ROLL KEEPER**

Mabel Bell

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT**

Helen Illingworth  
[sundayclub@netherleechurch.org](mailto:sundayclub@netherleechurch.org)

## **EDITOR OF LINK**

Anne Tennant  
[link@netherleechurch.org](mailto:link@netherleechurch.org)

## **LINK & LIFE & WORK DISTRIBUTION**

Bill Findlay

## **DVD DISTRIBUTION**

Carol Cleland,  
[avteam@netherleechurch.org](mailto:avteam@netherleechurch.org)

## **ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER**

Steven Crawford  
[choir@netherleechurch.org](mailto:choir@netherleechurch.org)

## **SAFEGUARDING CO-ORDINATOR**

Michael H Buchan  
[safeguard@netherleechurch.org](mailto:safeguard@netherleechurch.org)

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

### **Convener**

Allan Mathieson  
[finance@netherleechurch.org](mailto:finance@netherleechurch.org)

### **TREASURER**

Ronnie Mair  
[treasurer@netherleechurch.org](mailto:treasurer@netherleechurch.org)

### **DEED OF COVENANT, GIFT AID AND WEEKLY FREEWILL OFFERING CONVENER**

Dennis Burt

### **FABRIC CONVENER**

Malcolm McVey  
[fabric@netherleechurch.org](mailto:fabric@netherleechurch.org)

### **PREMISES SUPERVISOR**

Irene MacVey  
[premises@netherleechurch.org](mailto:premises@netherleechurch.org)

### **PROPERTY RESERVATION**

See Church Office below

### **CHURCH OFFICE**

**(Tuesday – Friday, 8.30 – 11.30)**

Elsbeth Bennett  
Netherlee Church, Ormonde Avenue, G44 3SL  
0141 637 2503  
[office@netherleechurch.org](mailto:office@netherleechurch.org)  
Website: [www.netherleechurch.org](http://www.netherleechurch.org)

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