

The Beacon

St. John's-Renfield Church

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2022

Feb

Mar

April

May

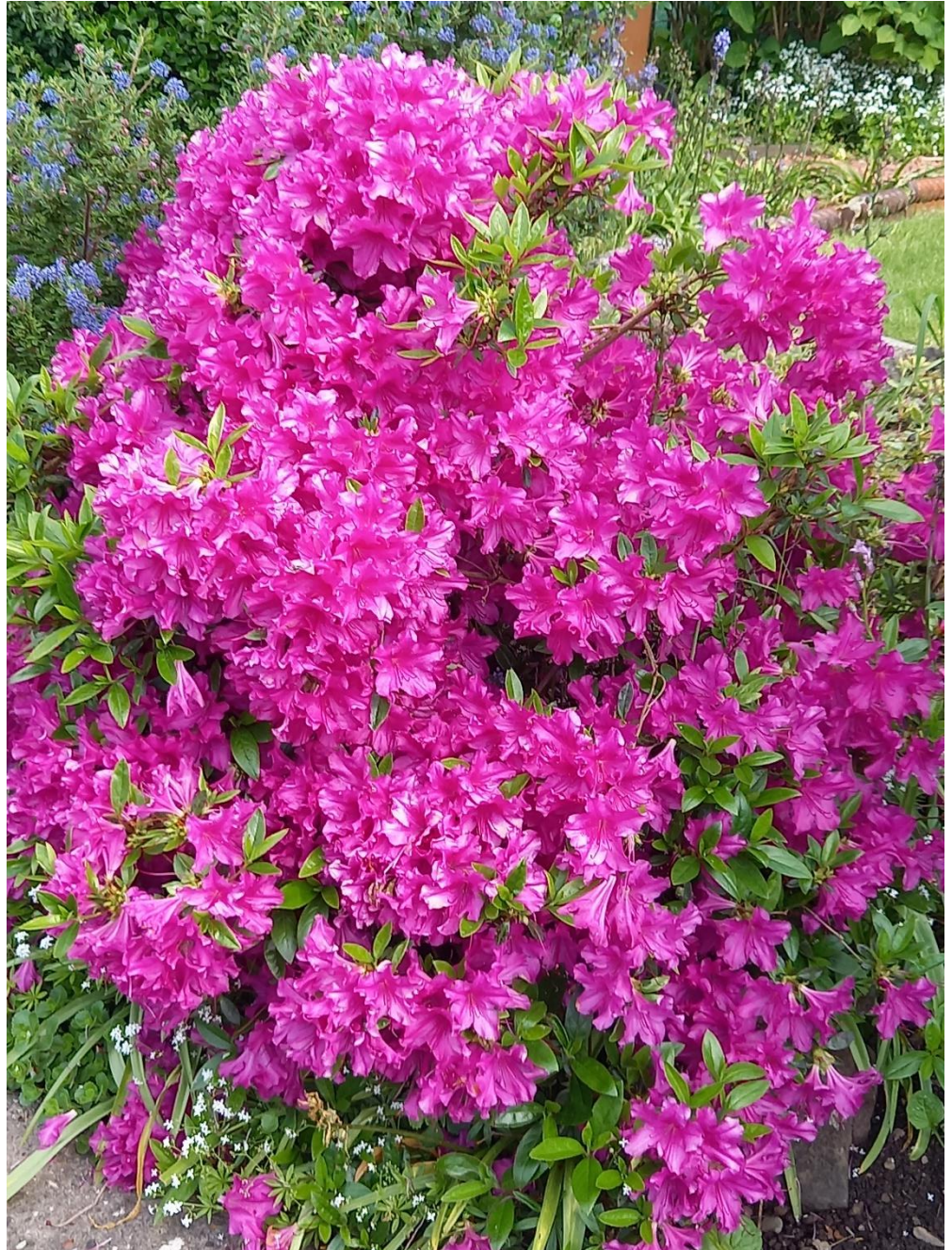
June

Sept

Oct

Nov

Dec



Our services in May

For the second time in five years our church is open to the challenge of living from week to week in a vacancy, but as we begin this period of renewed challenge, we are blessed in the support, through ministry, of ministers who bring a great and diverse range of loving experience. For all those of us who have been able to share worship in church over the last few weeks this has certainly been true.



Our vacancy began with the welcome to our new Interim Moderator, the Rev Dr Kleber Machado. As by now you all know, Kleber comes from Brazil, where he grew up.

On Sunday May 8th our worship was led by former Moderator of the Church of Scotland Rev David Nunan. He brought a message for our challenging times. He referred to the deep well of gifts and talents within our membership which will flourish in the face of our challenges, so fear not, he said. He preached on the healing ministry of Jesus recounted in the stories of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew. “Preaching should begin in Washington and end in Jerusalem, or begin in Jerusalem and end in Washington. Preaching is not about the sum total of human wisdom. It is not good advice. It is good news. about what we believe. It is not what we say, it is what God says. “It is about healing relationships.” He went on “the word from God is always ‘I love you. I want you to trust me. You matter to me.’ That’s the Gospel. Each of us matters to God.”

David encouraged us to open our minds to the questions which we all face though life, but also to open ourselves to the answers which God gives. There is a teaching we have to learn from Jesus, about how we follow him. It is all summed up in Jesus' words at the Last Supper: "Love one another. That's the only way people will know that you are my disciples. Love the Lord your God with everything you have, heart and soul. And love your neighbour as yourself."

David's quietly inspirational words stay with us and take us forward. On May 15th we were taken forward by again by Rev Sheila Blount and her husband, Rev Dr Graham Blount, each with their own rich history of ministry. Sheila introduced children (of all ages) to some of our big world issues: how can we protect the earth? How can we encourage others, in church and beyond? How can we share Christian love in a world where he may seem distant? Graham reminded us of how important it is to recognise when it is necessary to change your mind. How hard it can be. With reference to the story of Peter being confronted that the recognition that his Jewish beliefs of his people's unique importance in the eyes of God must not blind him to the wider truth that God's message of love was for all. Peter had to face the fact that God was speaking to people who didn't confirm to his view of the world, and that God has no favourites.

The message was clear for all in the church today. We cannot imagine that we can simply continue as we always have. "Our" church is changing. In Glasgow, across Scotland, in the whole of the United Kingdom. In Presbytery right now we are seeking new ways of worship and Christian life. Graham acknowledged the challenges. How do we ensure that the Gospel is for everyone? Do we react like those early Christians? Are we struck dumb? Do we break out into praise of God? And do we go out and live differently?

God, Graham reminded us, is ahead of us. Our challenge is the same as that through all the ages: to follow him. The heart of the way forward is to obey the key commandment: to love one another. That remains our challenge.

We are deeply grateful to all those who are contributing to our worship Sunday be Sunday, and we include those who enable us to enjoy each other's company over a cup of tea or coffee in the church hall afterwards. Come and join us!

Bob Bradnock
Session Clerk

Cluster Mission Plan - where are we going? A plan for the future.

Acts 11:18 Hearing it all laid out like that, they quieted down. And then, as it sank in, they started praising God. "It's really happened! God has broken through to the other nations, opened them up to Life!"

You cannot be serious, Lord. You cannot be expecting us to be talking to other churches – or can you?

At our last Cluster meeting one of the ministers present said he was most impressed with the honesty and integrity with which we had all in the Cluster approached the tasks ahead of us.

Our five different members, Broomhill-Hyndland, Jordanhill, Blawarthill, St Columba (Gaelic) and ourselves are continuing to work harmoniously towards forming our Cluster Mission Plan. We

are making real progress and finding that we can share our strengths, yes and our weaknesses, with each other and potentially benefit from that sharing.

The plan is not finished yet – in fact it is only just started – and we are not yet in a position to share it with you but we are confident that we are producing positive reactions to the situation the Church nationally finds itself in and that going forward together we have a positive future.

We ask for your continued prayers in discerning God’s future for our Church.

*Isobel Digges, Robin Hutchison, Pat McGill,
Graham Moore and Jim Tassell*

7 HAIKU POEMS

Haiku is a type of short form poetry originally from Japan. Most are simple poems, evoking images of the natural world. Readers can add their own feelings and memories, making each haiku more personal. The 7 Haiku poems will be spread throughout this months Beacon.



*Cat at back door
Pet comfort
Sunshine warms my coat*

Jane Finnie



HAVE YOU HEARD...

the broken red tables in the Brotherton have been dispatched to the dump, and the blue tables- reshod with rubber feet to protect the new floor - have been moved across from the large hall. All the square light brown tables are in the large hall and the four large dark brown tables have been relocated from the ladies cloakroom to the small hall.

**

the four swing doors in the large hall now have retaining hooks to hold them open, so wedges no longer required!

**

that if you know of any Probus, Rotary, Golf Club, or Youth group looking to book a speaker, the chaplain of The Lodging House Mission Claire Herbert is keen to hear from them to spread the news about The Mission's work.



*Spring crocus grow
Baby asleep in his cot
Watch over him*

CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING



Held on Saturday 14th May our Christian Aid Coffee Morning raised £723. Thank you to all who helped and donated.



Pop-in Café

Join the Jubilee fun at our community
café!

Wednesday 1st June

From 2- 3.30 pm

**At the Large Hall, St. John's
Renfield Church,**

Beaconsfield Road, Kelvindale



Free Tea, Coffee, Cake

No booking required
Bring the kids - everyone is
welcome to join the fun and chat

Contact us: office@sjrchurch.com or call
(0141) 334 0782 - www.sjrchurch.com



Date for Your Diary!

After a delay of two years because of Covid, Opera Bohemia will finally bring Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro" to the church on August 17th at 7:30 (with orchestra). The first half of the tour successfully completed in 6 venues with piano and cello - starting in the Ayr Gaiety Theatre and travelling as far as Strathpeffer and Ullapool in the north and finishing back down in Greenock.

OPERA BOHEMIA
The Marriage of
FIGARO
Mozart



August 17th - get your tickets from Shaun at the church, or email: Shaun.digges@gmail.com

If that date doesn't suit, a full list of venues and dates is available at the church, or can be emailed to you.

Shaun

Clematis archway
Traveller's joy to your heart
Ingenious beauty



Destitution Road peaks
Beinn Dearg
Recharge my soul

LODGING HOUSE MISSION NEWS



During the month of April, Angela, our Interventions worker, along with our volunteer Gill, provided support on 127 occasions. Emotional support as always was most common, with benefits advice and support coming in a very close second.

Angela has been supporting Morgen, a student studying HNC Social Services at City of Glasgow College, who has been on placement here at LHM since December 2021.

“It’s been a pleasure to support and guide Morgan through her learning experience.

It has also given us all the opportunity to look at our own practice in order to continue to provide the best possible service to the vulnerable men and women who come through our doors,” reports Angela.

Clare Herbert

Boy meets girl
Silk embroidery robe
Early morning crescent moon



Two birds on rooftop
Treacle scones cookie time
What’s for tea?



Holodomor
Memorial Kyiv
commemorating
the great famine
of 1932-33
induced by Stalin

Return to the war zone

Jim and I wish to express our most sincere thanks for your friendship during our family's stay here in Glasgow.

Euan, Tina, Babushka Zoya and Emily set off on 20th May on their return journey to Kyiv via Amsterdam and Warsaw to board the train to Ukraine on 23rd May. Their route runs north of the Carpathians to Chelm, near the Polish border, to pick up the Kyiv train.

They had to return home as President Zelensky had asked all citizens with government related jobs to return immediately.

We thank you for your concern and ask you to continue to pray for their safety as they settle back into a country still at war.

Dyakouyou (Ukrainian for thank you)

Elizabeth and Jim MacDonald



*Gold sunflower sky
Light floods my window
Ukraine*



The Boys' Brigade
5th Glasgow Company
<http://5glasgow.boys-brigade.org.uk>
5thglasgow@boys-brigade.org.uk

follow us on social media



ANCHOR BOYS AND JUNIOR SECTION NEWS

First off, apologies for not having written in the Beacon very often this session.

We started the session with just six boys, after a tough period doing online evenings only. I am delighted to say that over the session this has grown to 15.

We have had a busy session as usual, learning about, diversity and friendships, celebrating international women's day, Chinese New Year, fairtrade week, as well as Christmas and Halloween parties. We had a visit from our local police dog handler with his two fabulous dogs, and we also planted sunflowers for Ukraine so look out for these popping up around Kelvindale over the summer.

We will end our session at the end of May. We have decided not to have a display this year, but hopefully we will return to this next year.

Only one of the boys is available for promotion to the Company Section, so hopefully the remaining 14 will all return in August and get us off to a strong start for next session.

As always, we are looking for more boys of P1-P6 age, so please spread the word. Also, we would be keen to have more staff too, so if you know anyone who could offer a couple of hours a week and free on Tuesday evenings then again, please encourage them to get in touch.

Have a great summer
Allan

COMPANY SECTION NEWS

It almost feels like we're getting back to some sort of normality, particularly since the Company Section enjoyed hosting our short Open Evening & Presentation of Awards on Friday 20th May. It was great to see parents & families again after such a long time, and we thank everyone who came along and supported the boys on the evening.

Due to the holiday weekends, we only have one Friday night until our camp. So, on Friday 10th June we're taking things outside for some outdoor games at Jordanhill playing field.

That leads us on to our weekend camp at Stillaig, Tighnabruaich from 17th to 19th June 2022. A full weekend of activities is planned, including trying our hand at some sailing. We're really looking forward to the weekend and can only hope that the weather (and the midgies) are kind to us!

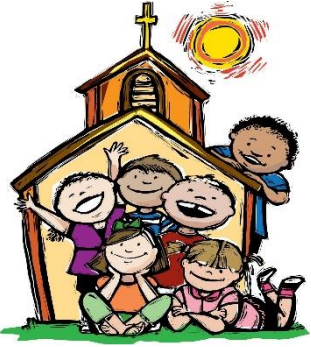
Our two Queen's Men, Sgt Grant Maclennan and Sgt Jack McClelland, are also looking forward to Tuesday 14th June, when they will attend the Glasgow Battalion Queen's Badge Presentation Ceremony at Glasgow City Chambers. This is a very prestigious evening and one which the boys have certainly earned with all their work.

Over the summer please do keep a watch out for our flashbacks and memories on social media, and don't forget to 'like', 'share', and 'retweet' our posts if possible!

Company Section will return on Friday 2nd September 2022 for what, we hope, will be a full resumption of all our much-loved activities and outings. We can't wait!

STEDFAST

SUNDAY CLUB NEWS



Hi everyone!

The summer has finally arrived and we are all looking forward to a (hopefully) lovely, sunny, summer holidays! It has been a challenging year and we are aware that some people may not have been able to come to the club due to covid and also all the other activities that happen on Sunday mornings! We are hopeful that we will get some more children coming to the club when the new session starts up again in September. Our last session this year will be on June 19th. There won't be Sunday Club cover over the summer (from 26th June – 28th August inclusive) as our numbers are so low but children are always welcome in the church should they wish to attend. We are in such a stage of transition in so many ways at St John's-Renfield – but we will come through!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Robbie and Sarah for their support this past year (and in previous years!) as they will not be with us next year. Their contribution has been invaluable and we will all miss them sorely! We also wish Sarah lots of luck in Jerusalem when the family move out there in August.

Thanks too to Neil and Wei Ai for their help this past year, their support has also been invaluable and we look forward to moving on as a team next session. We are in the process of recruiting another helper but are always on the lookout for more! If anyone would like to help with the Club, please contact Cathy in the office and she will forward the information to me.

Have a fabulous summer!

Sunday Club Team 😊

LIFE AND WORK

JUNE 2022

The Longest Reign

The Dean of the Chapel Royal, the Rev Professor David Fergusson, pays tribute to the Queen on her platinum jubilee.

The Very Rev Dr John Chalmers says the Queen has been ‘a living example of scrupulous honesty and integrity’.

‘We Need to Stay United’

Jackie Macadam meets Lord Hodge, the Lord High Commissioner to the 2022 General Assembly.

General Assembly

A round-up of the reports to this year’s Assembly.

Marks of Mission: Care for Creation

Last in the series looking at the Five Marks of Mission

Faith in Action

An official monthly update from the Faith Action Programme

The Power of Invitation

In this month’s youth page, twins Kim and Fiona Halliday share their faith journeys

‘Deliver us from evil’

David Searle continues his series on the Lord’s Prayer

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LIFE AND WORK

THE MAGAZINE OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

IN THIS ISSUE

THE LONGEST REIGN

Platinum Jubilee Tribute from the Dean of the Chapel Royal

'WE NEED TO STAY UNITED'
Lord Hodge, this year's Lord High Commissioner

ASSEMBLY 2022

Four pages of reports

MARKS OF MISSION

Caring for creation

and much more all for £3

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH JUNE 2022

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Wednesday 1 st | Jubilee Pop In Café Large Hall from 2.00 to 3.30 p.m. |
| Sunday 5 th | Morning Worship – 11 a.m. Communion |
| Sunday 12 th | Morning Worship – 11 a.m. |
| Sunday 19 th | Morning Worship – 11 a.m. Final Sunday Club for the school year Annual Business Meeting – 1 p.m. – All Welcome |
| Sunday 26 th | Morning Worship – 11 a.m. |

Please note: Events are subject to change following any new Covid guidance.

OFFICE BEARERS

Minister – Position Vacant

Interim Moderator – Rev. Dr. Kleber Machado

Session Clerk

Bob Bradnock

Assistant Session

Clerk

Susan Finnigan

Editor of Beacon

Alan Christie

Material for the September 2022 Beacon is required by

Friday 19th August 2022 midnight

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

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