

Cornerstone



Prayer for those Suffering in the Ukraine.

I am sure that like me, you were all greatly shocked and saddened by the terrible war now raging in the Ukraine. The plight of the refugees is heartbreaking. They are constantly in my thoughts and prayers. The cruelty of the Russian oppressors is sickening and surely they must lose in the end, On **P7**, Alistair Macrae has written an article which I strongly recommend.

In this edition I have introduced a Gardener's Corner which is guided by Jim Reddiex's note " A Year in the Garden". As you know Jim was an outstanding gardener and I hope you find this useful. On **P3 and P4 Harry Webster** presents another absorbing article on Cadzow Church as it was 100 years ago and on **P6 Alistair Macrae** has, at my request produced a note based on the sermon he gave in church a few weeks ago on how Jesus assembled his disciple. Ever since I was a boy I have loved this story. So has Alistair.

In Poet's Corner, **Evelyn Henwood** provides a delightful poem to welcome Spring and on **p11** I have highlighted two "**Recent Baptisms**"!

Editor

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A Message From The Minister

Giving Day

A big thank you to everyone who generously gifted the church last December on our Giving Day. We raised £7025! That is an amazing offering to the church, especially when Covid is still preventing us from doing all the things we love doing together. The best part is that these gifts will not be added to our total budget, meaning they will not increase our required Ministry and Missions contributions to the Church of Scotland. We'll be able to spend it all locally. Thank you again for your generosity on Giving Day and for the many who give their gifts all year round.

Mission Plan Act

In December last year I attended the last meeting of Hamilton Presbytery, ever! The presbytery, which has been in existence since 1591, has now been combined with Lanark and Falkirk Presbyteries to form the Forth Valley and Clydesdale Presbytery. The new presbytery held its first meeting at the GLO Centre at the beginning of February. Everything is changing and lately it feels like the rate of change is changing, too. It's all changing faster and faster.

One thing that hasn't changed is the Mission Plan Act which calls for a 40% reduction in the number of ministries across the Church of Scotland. We're all furiously working on this plan, but to date, no one knows what it's going to look like. No one can say with any confidence that theirs won't be the church expected to close or unite or link or morph into something completely different. This goes for Cadzow as well and for me, your minister. Presently there is a small team trying to make the case for our ongoing presence in the community and there is much to justify our arguments. It's been a slow start with covid forcing the cancellation of several events, but the tide is turning, and we are looking into a number of projects that will help us develop meaningful ties with our community including: a series of cycling events in partnership with Cycle UK and the Bike Barn, a new connection with Stagecraft who will provide children's dramatic event, refugee sponsorship, a community garden, and a monthly sing-along for the elderly. There're lots of ideas because sadly, there are lots of problems in our communities today and social problems of every sort are at crisis levels. Depression, anxiety, eating disorders, domestic violence, substance abuse, suicide and many other social ills have been exacerbated by the pandemic and the forced isolation of the lockdowns.

If one were to step back from these two phenomena one might wonder if God is doing something new? The Church is being roused to mission and the need for mission has never been greater. Do you see? There is a connection between the two and there is an opportunity for us all. Looking ahead, I keep repeating a phrase I read recently, "Smaller church, bigger God." What this says to me is that while the church as we all know it continues to decline, we are learning to turn to God more deeply. When we can do things on our own, we don't really need God. But, in our weakness, we may well find that God is far stronger than we ever imagined.

There's a mission plan act at work alright, but it may be one birthed in heaven instead of the halls of the General Assembly.

John

From the Archives



Cadzow Church 100 Years ago

Harry Webster

I thought it would be interesting to get a glimpse of life in Cadzow and its Mission Churches a hundred years ago, from Christmas 1921 to March 1922, through snippets out of the Archives and the minister of the parish, Rev. T. Harkness Graham's comments on some of them.

The Celebration of Holy Communion services in Cadzow, Ferniegair and Low Waters Mission Churches in December 1921 had 850 members communicating which included 52 new communicants. The services had also the baptism of 8 young persons of "mature age".

There were Socials for all the Sunday School Teachers of Cadzow and the Mission Churches in December and February in Ferniegair Hall and Low Waters Hall respectively. A benefit from these gatherings was considered to be the promotion of a good feeling among the members from the various schools.

At this time Cadzow had a Literary Society. It seems to have been a popular organisation as indicated by the numbers attending. Particular reference is made to the February meeting which had Major J.C.E. Kay M.C. speak on the life of Rudyard Kipling, perhaps better known at this time than at the present.

A constant issue with Cadzow members, since the church was opened, was the lack of hall accommodation. It was still to the fore in the minds of members in 1922. It was increasingly felt that some movement was required particularly from the young members such as the Young Men's Guild, since it was these age groups who would benefit most. It was known young people were going elsewhere "for outlets for their energies." It had to be a "brick built building" which could accommodate the Sunday School held in Cadzow. It must be remembered the Sunday Schools met in the Sanctuary at times that avoided Worship Services. Each class was allocated 2 pews with one pew separating each class. The Christmas parties for all the Sunday Schools were held in Hamilton Coop. Hall. The "treat" was the provision of a Christmas tree.

The winter of 1921-22 was severe and the Archives describe the hardships of members. By March, it was recorded that influenza had claimed the lives of some members. Matters were exacerbated by a business recession although the income for the Annual Financial Year for Cadzow was considered to be good.

Regular income to the churches came from organisations' sales of work

As in present times, music played an important part in the churches. The Ferniegair Junior Choir at Christmas time went out singing and raised £6 which was given to the minister to send as a donation to Glasgow Royal Infirmary. This same choir performed the sacred cantata "Biddy" in the Mission Church and in Cadzow. Both congregations gave much support and encouragement to the children and choir-master. Cadzow's Junior Choir led the carol singing at all services on Christmas Day which fell on a Sunday. This time being the start of a year, perhaps led the minister to write in both the February and March Magazines, some criticisms of the congregations of Cadzow and the Mission Churches.



To support Harry's article I added this photograph of the church taken around 1920. At first sight it looks as if nothing has changed but on looking closer there have been a few changes. Can you spot them?

He suggested that many come to church "to be thrilled and amused and when the voice has grown commonplace or familiar, they come only occasionally." He thought the then modern congregation is divided into 3 parts. First, the faithful who "attend in season and out of season." Second, "sometimes surprise us by its absence". Third, "seldom surprises us by its absence." He was particularly disappointed in the young well-to-do married members.

He thought the working class that become connected to a church do play their part both "nobly and well." He had formed this opinion also from his experience of having a charge which existed under most adverse circumstances in "downtown Glasgow".

He further stated "We do not wish members who merely attend at Communion."

In February, there is reference to a "spiritual upheaval" in north-east Scotland. No details are on record but the minister thought if a revival should break out in Hamilton "it is to be hoped that it will be attended with something practical and not effervesce in mere posturing and shouting."

However, in the March Magazine there is a reference at the end of the Minister's letter that refers to the efforts that are being made to have a Revival in Hamilton. After wishing success to the project, he writes "What we need is a strong sense of Christian citizenship and duty, marked by sanity and reason, operating simply in the humdrum walks of everyday life." - **Is that what we should see?**

Gardener's Corner

In view of the interest in gardening shown by Cadzow members I decided that the inclusion of a gardening page in our church magazine might prove popular. Sadly, one of our outstanding gardening experts, **Jim Reddiex**, died last year but before he died he left with us with some excellent gardening advice in a document entitled "A Year in the Garden". After reading this I decided to publicise Jim's work in this year's Cornerstone I am sure that anyone with an interest in gardening will benefit from Jim's seasonal guide. *Editor*



Verse from Jim Reddiex's leaflet

*The kiss of the Sun for pardon,
The song of the birds for mirth.
You are nearer God's heart in a garden
Than anywhere else on earth.*

Tasks for March - April

Pest Control

Thoroughly soak rose bushes (which have been cut back to 6" – 9") and surrounding areas with a solution of Jeyes fluid to combat black spot.

Spray paths and patio with Jeyes fluid solution to kill and control moss.

Prepare greenhouse by cleaning the glass staging and floor with Jeyes fluid. Even consider burning a little flowers of sulphur to fumigate but make sure you don't inhale any of the fumes. Retire from the greenhouse as soon as the sulphur ignites. Remember that sulphur fumes will kill all plant life in the greenhouse.

In recent years, vine weevil has become a major problem in the greenhouse and conservatory, killing off pot plants. Help is now at hand with Bio's new product called, "Probado". Control moss on the lawn with sulphate of iron.

Cuttings

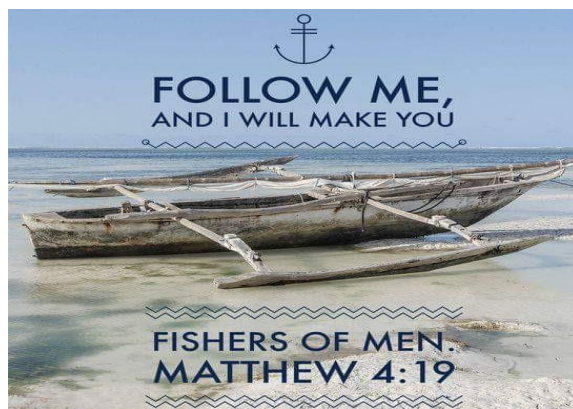
Now is the time to start sowing varieties of seed - sweet peas, cabbage and cauliflowers and broccoli.

Take cuttings of fuschias and chrysants.

I Will Make You Fishers of Men !

At a recent morning service Alistair Macrae's sermon was taken from Gospels and dealt with the time when Jesus was recruiting his disciples to make them "fishers of men". I remember in my youth I was particularly taken by this story and so, clearly, was Alistair. I asked him to provide an amended version for Cornetstone. Thanks Alistair.

Editor



The Bible is full of imagery and marvellous word pictures which stir the imagination and inspire us, and no more so than in the scripture passage from the Gospel of St. Luke where we see Jesus recruiting his first disciples. I first heard the story of Jesus calling his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter, James and John, while I was at primary school, and was fascinated by Jesus' words to them, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men", as the translation of the day recorded them. Throughout my life I can honestly say it has remained my favourite New Testament story and I have continually been drawn to it.

We are told that Simon, later known as Simon Peter, and his fellow fishermen, had toiled on the Sea of Galilee all night but had failed to catch any fish. Jesus appeared and called on them to cast their nets into the waters one more time, and miraculously this time they took on board so many fish that their nets were at breaking point. A rich harvest indeed, and an example perhaps of Jesus as is so often the case making the seemingly impossible, possible. We would do well to remember that when at times in our own spiritual journey we become despondent and the way ahead seems uncertain.

Peter's reaction to what happened was to say, "Depart from me for I am a sinful man". Jesus' response, however, was not to depart from Peter and the other fishermen, but rather to say, "Follow me", and immediately they left their boats and followed him. They must have seen something remarkable in the person of Jesus to unhesitatingly give up everything to follow Him and to be his disciples. There were no lame excuses, such as "let me think about it", or "I have urgent business I have to attend to first". They felt compelled to follow Him in the sense they found Jesus' invitation irresistible; it was something they did all too willingly, for as we know, and which they over time came to realise, the invitation which was extended to Many since have heard the Call of God, and their lives have been transformed. It was the Call of God which sent St. Columba to Iona, David Livingstone and Mary Slessor to Africa, and Eric Liddell and Gladys Aylward to China. Friends, we are in Church today for we have responded to Jesus' invitation to follow Him. And the Call of God once taken up has a transforming power, whereby we depart from our former ways and enter into new life with Christ. We are called to be Christ's agents in this place, to love and serve each other and those in our own community, even to the ends of the earth if necessary, to proclaim both in our witness and our service that the Kingdom of God has come, that all may enter into new life. them that day came from God himself, that same Jesus who was the Word made flesh and dwelt among us.

Alistair Macrae



No Man is an Island

I fully agree with the sentiments expressed by Alistair in this article which I am pleased to include in our Magazine. The photograph on the left shows President Putin as he declared an alert on the use of nuclear weapons last month.

Editor

I am sure we are all appalled by the scenes of Russian aggression towards the people of Ukraine. President Putin seems to be trying to obliterate the country of Ukraine from the European map. He cares more about territory than for the people who inhabit it. We may be concerned about the disregard of the rule of law or the imminent demise of democratic government, but more fundamentally we should be concerned about what is happening because of our common humanity.

The words of John Donne, Dean of St. Paul's seem apt to the current situation and just as pertinent as when they were first published in 1624. Here is what he said :-

“ No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less.....any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind.”

The subjugation of Ukraine and its people diminishes us; the reality is that in the current conflict we are all now Ukrainians.

Alistair Macrae

The Anchor Boys' Timeline for our Queen

The anchor boys will be learning all about the Queen's time on the throne and the events that have happened over the last 70 years. As part of this we will be putting up a time line in the hall with important dates and events.

If you have something that you wish to be included, feel free to bring in a picture or even just write it on the timeline and let's see if we can fill the timeline with lots of memories!



Karen McLean

Thursday Teas and Coffees!

The Coffee Lounge is open once more on Thursdays for teas, coffees and biscuits from 10 - 12 am.



We would be delighted to see you and your friends and look forward to having a good chat with you now that social restrictions have eased. Please come along. It has been such a long time.

We have missed you!



POET'S CORNER

Many thanks to Evelyn Henwood for sending in all of the items on this page and providing much food for thought!

Editor

Spring Again

Spring has slipped her slippers off
And gently flutters through the air
Touching the trees that soon will leaf
Bringing beauty everywhere.

The snowdrop lifts her lovely head
And others soon will join the ranks
A verdant mantle clothes the ground
With cowslip seen midst grassy banks.

Softer winds begin to blow
The earth refreshed with gentle rain
Will once again burst forth with life
So pleased to see Spring back again



Success

To laugh often and much.

To win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children.

To earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends.

To appreciate beauty.

To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition.

To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived

This is to have succeeded!

Food for Thought

1 Love is like a bank , the more you put in the more you interest grows

2 Many little things are of greater value than big things. Could a cup of water exist without a drop?

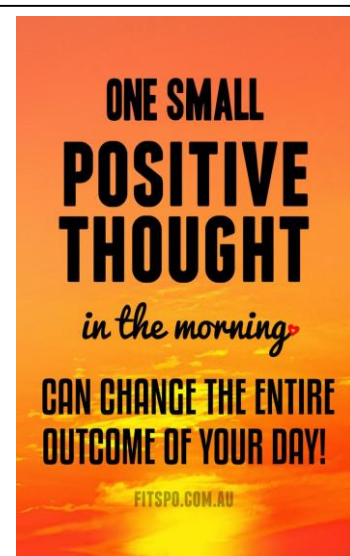
Editor's Snippets

Many thanks to Beth Thomson and Hamish Wilson for their excellent contributions to this popular page.

Editor

What is Prayer?

*Prayer just doesn't happen when we kneel and expect things from God. Thinking positive and wishing good for others is a prayer. When you cook something to nourish family and friends that's a prayer. When we send off our near and dear ones and say, "drive safely", that's a prayer. When you are helping someone in need by giving your time and energy, you are praying. When you forgive someone with all your heart, that's a prayer. Prayer is the VOICE OF LOVE. Prayer is the expression of your silent being **Keep praying always***



Family isn't always blood. It's the people in your life who want you in theirs. The ones who accept you for what you are

C.S. LEWIS

*Though our feelings
come and go,*

God's love for us does not



Cats are composed of iron,
lithium and neon!

Fe Li Ne

FeLiNe



You don't make music with
instruments, you make music with
emotions. The instruments just
allow you to get your point across.

Recent Baptisms



Alexander Abercrombie – baptised on 21 November with our minister, parents Martin and Sharon and godparents Lorraine Brown and Martin Dick.



Katie Schottner – Baptised and joined church on 14 December 2021 with our minister and her aunt Beth Thomson.



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Church Diary

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Session Clerk Alistair Macrae

95 the Paddock

Tel: 304946

WFO Mrs Dorothy Craig

Deputy Session Clerk Stewart Tweedlie

49 John Muir Way , Motherwell

Tel:249032

5 Chestnut Crescent

[Tel:281553](tel:281553)

Roll Clerk Mrs Patricia Steel

6 Maple Bank

Tel:427253

Organist John Pitcathley

Garrion Linn, Horsley Head, Overton [Tel:376654](tel:376654)

Treasurer Mrs Heather Stewart

6 Cypress Court

Tel:324535

Property Convenor Malcom Young

105 Aitken Road

Tel:284036

Funerals

Findlay Campbell 1st December

Jim Reddiex 14th December

Elizabeth Johnson 7th February

