

**St James' Parish Church of Scotland, Ayr**  
**Church Calendar of Events November/ December 2018**

**Thoughts from the manse**



**November 2018**

Day/Date	Event	Organisation	Location/ Time
Thursday 1st	Coffee Evening	The Guild	Hall – 7.30pm
Sunday 4th	Rehearsal	Concert Party	Hall – 2.00pm
Sunday 11th	Remembrance	Service	Church – 10.50am
Sunday 11th	Rehearsal	Concert Party	Hall – 2.00pm
Monday 12th	Rehearsal	Concert Party	Hall – 7.00pm
Tuesday 13th	Meetings	Congregational Board/ Kirk Session	Church 7.30pm
Wednesday 14th	Concert	Chit Chat Group	Hall – 7.30pm
Thursday 22nd	Committees	Presbytery	Ayr: The Auld Kirk Halls – 7.00pm
Friday 23rd	Christmas Fayre	Preparations	Church 6.30pm
Saturday 24th	Christmas Fayre	Church	Hall – 10.00am

**December 2018**

Day/Date	Event	Organisation	Location/ Time
Tuesday 4th	Meeting	Presbytery	Maybole – 7.00pm
Sunday 9th	Hall Decorations	Guides / BB	Hall – 1.30pm
Tuesday 11th	Beetle Drive	Guides	Hall – 7.30pm
Wednesday 12th	Close	Chit Chat Group	Hall – 2.15pm
Friday 14th	Close	Boys' Brigade	Hall – from 6.00pm
Saturday 15th	Party	Congregation	Hall – 12.30pm
Sunday 16th	Gift Service	Church	Church – 11.00am
Sunday 23rd	Nativity Service	Church	Church - 11.00am
Monday 24th	Christingle/ Family	Service	Church – 6.30pm
Monday 24th	Christmas Eve	Service	Church – 11.15pm
Sunday 30th	No	Junior Church	Hall 10.30am

Always remember...

One of the first things I learned about British culture and British customs is the sentence: remember, remember the 5<sup>th</sup> of November and when my daughter was little our family always went to the bonfire and fire works of Guy Fawkes Night on Helensburgh Pier. It has always been exciting for me to immerse myself in Scottish and British history and traditions, to learn something new about the country I have been calling my home for over a decade now. And this curiosity about other cultures, other ways of life is not only a personal pleasure, I hold it to be one of the most important assets, a way to preserve peace. After all, we are less likely to want to fight what we get to know, what we learn to love.

Of course it is not only and not primarily the 5<sup>th</sup> of November which we remember this month and this year Remembrance is especially poignant as up and down the country people remember the end of World War I, exactly 100 years ago, the end of blood soaked battlefields, the end of gunfire and trenches. It was not, however, I fear the end of trauma and grief, when young boys and men came home shell shocked, when wife's mothers and sisters wept for their husbands, sons and brothers. This is why it is so important to remember: to learn from the past, to learn for the future. This is why it is so important to learn from each other, to understand each other: so a devastating war, a war that cost millions of lives on all sides, will never happen again. This is why it is important to strive for Christian unity, because our God is a God of peace.

This Sunday we remembered the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for our sins, a sacrifice for which I think we owe Him a debt, a debt to

**Cont**/follow Him, who we believe to be the Prince of peace, a debt to challenge war and bloodshed in His name, in the name of the one who said, when he broke bread: do this in memory of me. AMEN

Every blessing  
Barbara

### **Congregational Board and Kirk Session Meetings**

The next meetings will take place on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 @ 7.30pm. A good attendance would be appreciated.

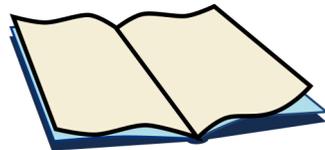
Bill Mackie  
Session Clerk

### **Forthcoming Services of Worship**

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November – St Martin’s Celebration 6.00pm in the Church  
Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Peace Service – 7.00pm in the Church

### **Life and Work Magazine 2019**

It’s that time of the year again. It would be appreciated if subscribers could confirm a commitment for next year. I do not have the costs yet but will confirm at the earliest opportunity. New subscribers would be welcome. Your assistance is appreciated.



Bill Mackie  
Magazine Coordinator

### **Congregational Christmas Party 2018”**

The Kirk Session and Congregational Board invite you to attend the Congregational Christmas Party on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 1 pm in the church hall. This year the entertainment is a surprise!

To help with the catering arrangements, if you wish to attend, please complete the tear off slip below and place it in the Offering Plate by Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2018, or if you prefer, hand it into the Church Office or ask your Elder to pick it up. If you require transport please tick the appropriate space on the reply slip. If you have any special dietary requirements please advise Moyra Smith on 01292 266993 or 01292 283408.

*Please tear here*

***Please tick and return as appropriate***

I / WE wish to attend the Christmas Party on 15<sup>th</sup> December

I / WE require transport to and from the hall

Name:(s) -----

Address: -----

Tel No: -----

**Any special Dietary requirements:**



## 8th Ayr Boys' Brigade Company

During October the Junior Section & Company Section took part in the 5/6 a side Football Competitions at the Old Racecourse playing fields, Ayr. The Junior Section team finished runners up in the 10 & over age group – well done to Ryan Poole, Liam Rout, Callum Normansell & Yasin Delgado. The Company Section won their competition without conceding a goal – well done to the six boys – Calum Thomson, Ewan Courtney, Dylan Thayne, Sean Yates, Ross Courtney & Shaun Marshall.

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October we held a Family Evening in the Church Hall. It was a good night with a quiz, slide show and various information given out to Parents. The sum of £37 was raised for Church funds – thanks to everyone who supported us. The Anchor Boys and Junior Section also had a Halloween Party in the hall on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

November will be a busy month for the Company. On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November the Anchor Boys & Junior Section will take part in the St Martin's Day walk at the church. On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November some of the Boys & Leaders will be doing the Poppy Appeal in Ayr Town Centre. On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November the Junior and Company Sections will be at the Remembrance Day Service in the Church, with it being our turn to Parade the Colours. Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November is the Battalion Swimming Gala where some of the Junior & Company Section boys will take part. Also, on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November we will be helping at the Church Christmas Fayre in the hall.

Stuart Hyslop  
Company Captain



## Treasurer's Report

Offerings etc. for October 2018

	7th	14th	21st	28th
Freewill Offering	416.70	476.60	436.00	924.70
Open Plate	23.00	28.00	49.50	61.00
Lunch Box	80.00	85.00	105.00	70.00
Mile of 5pences		5.00		
Donations				
Fabric				32.50

This month we received a donation of £50.00 from the Chit Chat Group (previously known as the Ladies Country Dance Group).

The BB held a Parents Quiz Night and had a retiring collection which raised £37,00 for Church Funds.

The Harvest Retiring Collection raised £80.65 for the Christ in Action Foodbank.

The Guides ran the teas after the service this month and raised £34.50 which will go to the Fabric Fund. The Wheelbarrow will be brought through to the Hall from now on when the Teas are served.

Alison Hyslop  
Treasurer



## Church Roll

It is with sad news that two of our members has died since the last Newsletter.

Mr Andrew Blackwood and Mrs Elizabeth Thom

Our sincere sympathy is extended to their family and friends.

Gillian Cunningham  
Roll Keeper



## Junior Church

Our stories are progressing with the classes experiencing different activities. There will only be 2 or 3 more with Big Green Book before we begin our preparation for the Christmas Nativity.

Our **Annual Gift Service**, to help less fortunate children, will be held on **Sunday, 16 December 2018** at the usual time of 11.00 o'clock and once again your contributions will be gladly received. The 2 charities that we are helping again this year are Children First and Barnardos.

The **Christmas Party** will be held on **Friday, 21 December 2018** at **Farm Park** from **4.30 pm**.

More details of our Christmas Activities will be issued in next month's Newsletter.

Gillian Cunningham  
Secretary



**Cont/**We will also be attending the Remembrance Service on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 10.45am.

As we have been unable to book our usual holiday weekend at Nether Auchendrane, we- have booked the Church Hall on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November. The girls will travel round the Girlguiding Five World Centres, completing activities from Our Cabana in Mexico, Sangam in India, Pax Lodge in London, Our Chalet in Switzerland and Kusifiri in Africa. The girls have decided to make this a sleepover, so that will mean no sleep for the leaders!!

The Guides will be running the Christmas gifts and goods stall at the Church Christmas Fayre on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November. If you have any unwanted gift sets/gifts/goods which you no longer want or need, please donate them to our stall. Thank you for your support.

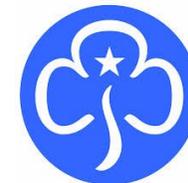
If you know any girls aged 10-14yrs, please encourage them to join us.

Regards,

Gillian Hay  
Guide Leader



Tel:- 01292 283924/Mobile:- 07763 821013  
Email:- [gill.ayr@btinternet.com](mailto:gill.ayr@btinternet.com)  
Address:- 5 Falkland Road, Ayr. KA8 8LN.



**Cont/**and last but not least, they had to make a Monster, write building instructions, dismantle it and see if the next person could replicate the original monster from the instructions given. Most were useful skills for the future.

A great night was had by all.

On the 30th, we had a joint Halloween Party with Guides and celebrated 85 years of Guides and Brownies at 12th Ayr (St James). We all had cake!

I hope you will all take time after the 6th November to see our 'Poppy Project' which will be on our notice board in the Church Hall.

Louise Dunn  
Brown Owl



## 12<sup>th</sup> Ayr Guides

Thanks to everyone who joined us for our Hallowe'en Quiz on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. We raised £121.20 for Guide funds. Thank you for your continuing support.

On 27<sup>th</sup> October 2018, 12<sup>th</sup> Ayr Brownies and Guides were 85 years old. We celebrated with a special cake at our joint Hallowe'en Party on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October. It's hard to believe we started in 1933 – very different times!

During November, the girls will be working on badges and skill builders from the new awards programme.

## Concert Party

Once again we are treading the boards on **Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm**. This year our show is called "Faraway Places" and as usual we are depending on your loyal support.

The ladies look forward to seeing all our friends and hope lots of your friends. Tickets will be on sale soon from members of the Concert Party at £5 each for more information call Joan on 283622.

Joan Kirkland  
Secretary

## Kids Time Community Playgroup

Once again I am happy to report that the number of children attending continues to remain stable. The hall is a very noisy but happy place every Thursday.

All is well at Kid's Time.

We meet every Thursday morning from 10 am till 11.45 in the hall, all under fives very welcome.

Moyra Smith  
Playgroup Leader.



## **Fundraising/Social Committee**

Christmas is fast approaching, what a thought! And our biggest fundraising event of the year is almost here! Our Christmas Fayre is on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November from 10am till 12.30pm in the hall and we look forward to having your support in our efforts to raise money for church funds. All church organisations are involved and will be manning the stalls and serving in the tearoom.

Further information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

### **PLEASE SUPPORT THE CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

## **Congregational Christmas Party**

The party is on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm in the hall. A warm invitation is extended to everyone. You will find a reply slip elsewhere in the newsletter. Replies can be returned via the offering plate, direct to the church office or via your district elder. If you require a lift please do not hesitate to contact me.

Moyra Smith  
Fundraising/Social Convenor  
01292 266993, 07729331511



## **Session Clerk's Message**

Dear Friends,

This is an important month in our lives. Remembrance is almost upon us. It is particularly significant with the 100<sup>th</sup>



## **Thank You**

Callum and Sadie MacEachran would like to thank the Church for the flowers they received during their recent health worries. They were very much appreciated.



## **12<sup>th</sup> Ayr Brownies**

October has been a varied month for us. Not many meetings but we have still managed to pack in quite a lot.

At the beginning of the month we were making pompoms towards our Remembrance project. We weren't using fancy gadgets, just bits of cardboard and wool. This made me realise that, for all the use of computers and technology, basic skills should still be to the fore.

We have been trying out a few of the new programme activities and so far, although it is totally different to our normal way of working, the girls are enjoying some of the challenges. We hope to see them all build in confidence as a result.

On the 23rd we had a Parent's Evening at Nether Auchendrane. We had a display of badges Brownies work towards and laid out 6 of laminated sheets with a list of necessary items and then watched as all the parents, Brownies and siblings 'got stuck in'. Some were sewing, doing cross stitch, running stitch and back stitch (buttons will be another night!). They could try using a 'Knitting Nancy'. They made wind turbines. They learned to hammer nails and screw screws into pumpkins. Some struck matches to light a tea light

## **Ministry of Flowers**

Once again I take the opportunity to thank those who kindly contribute monies to the weekly flower arrangements in Church.

The comments we receive are very much appreciated by "The Team".

Thank you to The Elders who deliver the flowers after the Service.

It would be helpful if you could notify me of those unable to attend Church due to ill health or bereavement.

Thank you

Lilian Kerr  
Flower Convener



## **The Chit Chat Group**

The Chit Chat Group invite you their Meeting on WEDNESDAY, 28th NOVEMBER, 2018 at 2.15p.m., in the Church Hall where the Topic of the afternoon will be CRIME PREVENTION by a member of our local Police Force.

This invitation is extended to all members of the Congregation and their friends. Further information from Ina Mackie, tel. 281163.

Looking forward to seeing you on 28th November 2018.

Ina Mackie  
Group Leader.

**Cont/**Anniversary of the end of the First World War. I realise that it should not be a custom to celebrate war, however we are in fact celebrating the sacrifices made by so many to allow us to live without the threat of a major war hanging over us. I am sure we have all been affected in some way or another as a consequence of War!

I recently read an article from Chris Tarrant who had visited Auschwitz as part of a programme on railways. It is hard to believe we can still be affected by happenings such a long time ago. Thank goodness times have changed for the better.

I have commented on a regular basis on the challenges facing our Churches today. It is important that we publicise all the good things that are happening in our Churches rather than concentrating on the negatives.

Finally I would commend that new initiative with the change of the Wednesday afternoon Country Dance Group to "The Chit Chat Group". This opens the group up to anyone to come along. If you are not doing anything on a Wednesday afternoon give it a try.

I commend you all in our Lord's work

May God bless each and every one.

Bill Mackie  
Session Clerk



## **Outreach Group**

### Messy Church

The Messy Church Christmas Party is on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December from 2pm till 4 pm in the church hall. It is open to all children aged up to primary 7 and their parents.

### Parish Christmas Card.

The Parish Christmas should be ready for uplift by our volunteers by Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November, all going well!! As the card will contain a flier with information about the Christmas Fayre we ask that the cards be delivered before 22<sup>nd</sup> November. We hope that all our regular delivery folks will help out once again, but of course we would be very happy to hear from any new folk. Please contact me. Street lists are now in the vestibule.

### Foodbank (Christ in Action)

Christ in Action continues its good work by helping those in need. At the Resource Centre at Newton School we are now handing out parcels to 15 to 20 families weekly. We have also supplied clothes, crockery cutlery, pots and pans to a number of immigrant families who are living in the Newton/Wallacetown area and have children attending Newton School or its Nursery. We supply Seascope and Ayrshire Housing with food parcels on a regular basis and we continue to deliver to the three homeless hostels in Ayr and one in Troon. We also supply butcher meat and other food items to the Women's Aid Refuge in Ayr on a weekly basis. Sincere thanks to all those kind and caring folks at St James, Kingcase, Monkton and Prestwick North and St Quivox Roman Catholic Church, Prestwick who continue to support the work of the food bank by giving donations of food and money on a regular basis. Very many thanks to all those at St James who have recently donated many items of Crockery, Cutlery, Pots and Pans, your support is greatly appreciated.

Thanks are also due to Greggs at Heathfield and Prestwick, Sainsbury Prestwick, Tesco Prestwick Road Ayr and Hamilton Family Butchers Walker Road. We have recently been offered foods items by Aldi, Prestwick. We have been very fortunate recently as three more St James members have offered to help with preparing parcels and deliveries.

Thanks to everyone we are able to continue to share the love and compassion of Jesus Christ with those who are less fortunate than us.

Moyra Smith  
Outreach Convenor



## **The Guild**

On 15th November 2018 Mrs Mills will tell the history of part 2 of Nursery rhymes.

29th November is report night and allocations with Christmas Carols. The Guild Christmas night out is 13th December in Kylestrome Hotel at 6.30p.m. Anyone wishing to join us at this evening will be made most welcome.

Sheila A. Wyllie, Secretary

