

# THE INFORMER

The Newsletter of Clincarthill Parish Church of Scotland

Church Website: [www.clincarthill.org.uk](http://www.clincarthill.org.uk)



Issue 112: October 2025

## Letter from The Manse

*<sup>6</sup>A voice says, 'Cry out.' And I said, 'What shall I cry?'*

*'All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.*

*<sup>7</sup>The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass.*

*<sup>8</sup>The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures for ever.'*

*(Isaiah 40 NIVUK)*

I recently had my final session with my Pastoral Supervisor; not because I no longer see the benefit of Pastoral Supervision (far from it!) but because she is retiring to the North of Scotland. This, of course, led me to reflect on the journey we have shared: she has been my Pastoral Supervisor since I was a trainee Minister working in Motherwell – over 10 years ago! It is quite remarkable to think of sharing over a decade of your life and ministry with someone; and while I wish my Supervisor well in retirement, I am of course saddened by the parting of ways.

This, combined with the other changes which we have already experienced, and are likely to experience (we have been part of a 3-year change management project courtesy of Presbytery Planning...) led me to reflect on the somewhat transient nature of our lives; contrasted with the constancy of our Almighty and Loving God. Isaiah caught this contrast well in the words above: though our lives might feel fleeting (something which may feel unsettling), we have a sure anchor and foundation, who does not shift or change; Whose character and concern are well known; and Who promises never to leave us nor forsake us.

In these moments of change, I find comfort in returning to the One who will never change; will always be my Loving Heavenly Father; will always guard and guide me; will always hold me in the sadness and delight with me in the joys.

Let us cling all the more firmly to this God, made known to us in and through our Lord, Jesus Christ.

For your reflection, I leave you with the final prayer liturgy my Pastoral Supervisor shared with me, called "The Sacrament of Letting Go" by Macrina Wiederkehr:

Slowly she celebrated the sacrament of letting go.

First, she surrendered her green,

Then the orange, yellow and red.

Finally, she let go of her brown,

Shedding her last leaf.

She stood, empty, stripped bare.

Leaning against the winter sky,

She began her vigil of trust.

*And Jesus said: "why do you worry about clothes? Remember the flowers growing in the fields; they do not fret about what to wear; yet I assure you, not even Solomon in all his royal robes was dressed like one of these.*

Shedding her last leaf,

She watched its journey to the ground.

She stood in silence,

Wearing the colour of emptiness,

Her branches wondering;

"How do you give shade with so much gone?"

*And Jesus said, "do not be troubled or needlessly concerned".*

And then the sacrament of waiting began,

The sunrise and the sunset watched with tenderness,

Clothing her with silhouettes.

They kept hope alive.

They helped her understand that

Her vulnerability,

Her dependence and need,

Her emptiness,

Her readiness to receive,

Were giving her a new kind of beauty.

Every morning and every evening,

They stood in silence and celebrated together,

The sacrament of waiting!

*And Jesus said: Now if that is how God cares for the wild flowers in the fields which are here today and gone tomorrow, will he not all the more care for you...?*

With every blessing,  
Stuart

Email: [slowe@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:slowe@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Tel.: 07916 176 873



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at Clincarthill Church  
1220 Cathcart Road, Glasgow



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### **Update on joint service at Maxwell Mearns Church on 5th October at 1030am.**

This is just to confirm with everyone that we will be having a joint service with Maxwell Mearns Church at their Church on Sunday 5th October at 1030am.

All members of the congregation are invited to attend.

If you require transport then please contact me at [\*\*sessionclerk@clincarthill.org.uk\*\*](mailto:sessionclerk@clincarthill.org.uk) before **Saturday 4th October** and I will assign you with one of our volunteers.

We hope as many people can attend as possible, however if the earlier time does not suit, then Clincarthill Church will be open from 1030am with the service from Maxwell Mearns being streamed from 11am in the sanctuary.

We have run into a safeguarding issue regarding the sharing of Sunday Schools and Creche, so the Kids Church and Creche will meet at Clincarthill as usual at 11am. I am sorry for this, but the issue did not give us sufficient time to get fixed before the service. I hope to have this issue sorted by the next joint service because it applies to both Churches.



Graham Kilpatrick  
Session Clerk



### **NEWS FROM THE GUILD**

A grateful thanks to all who donated to our charities at the after-church coffee on Sunday, September 14. The sum raised was £45 which is a very welcome addition to the charities we support.

The new session for the Guild begins on Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the small hall.

We are a welcoming group and would be delighted to welcome new members, male or female.

So come along and "Give Us a Try".

### **The Guild in October**

October 6: Opening social and Registration. Reflection on the Theme --- Rev. Stuart Love

October 13: Building Our House --- Sheila Morrow

October 20: Beetle Drive ---- On Our Own

October 27: Guild National Representative --- Christine Paterson.



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## Can you help?

**The Welcome Team:** duty is done by pairs, and currently it's once every 7 weeks, but we've lost a couple of folk recently, so new volunteers are more than welcome.

The duty entails being down at the church for 10.25 so the front doors can be opened. Then, welcome folk on arrival until after the service has started. During the service - keep an eye on the front door from time to time and if anyone takes ill during the service, arranging help etc.

After the service there's nothing much to do as the Pentecostal Church come in before 1.00pm.

**The Counting Team:** we need volunteers to count the Sunday morning cash offering. This is generally quite small cash amounts and takes less than 20 minutes after the service. You don't need to be able to use a computer, but it is useful. The counting is done in pairs so there is always someone there to assist.

Finally, the church grounds need regular maintaining, particularly over the Spring to Autumn period, cutting grass, weeding, pruning trees, maintaining the two large planters and the like. If anyone has a spare hour or two during the week and enjoys some fresh air and exercise, then you would be very welcome to come along and help out.

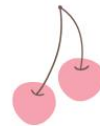
**If you can help in any of these areas please speak to Roger Gann - thank you.**



### Garden Café 2025



Over the summer we were able to run the garden café, which is a regular community outreach when most other church activities stop. This is not only a wonderful opportunity to serve others from our community but ensures the team that serve others gets to know each other really well. The foundation to our mission and outreach is building good relationships so that people will know us by our love.



We give thanks to God for the opportunity to serve and were blessed with a great team of volunteers, bakers and musicians. It was great to have friends from other churches come along too. We hope you felt welcome.

Looking ahead we pray for the churches in the area and beyond.

We are all one in Christ seeking unity as we use our different gifts that have been given to us by God.

Stephen Kennedy

Mission and Community Outreach Team



### Friday Senior Diners

The above Club  
will be off on:

Friday 10th  
October

and

Friday 17th  
October

due to School  
Holidays.



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## **140th Anniversary 140km Walk**

The Boys' Brigade began here in Glasgow in 1883, two years on with Companies around the UK it was decided that local groupings were required, and so on 12th October 1885 officers from the seven BB Companies in Glasgow met to form the Glasgow Battalion. To mark the 140th Anniversary this month, Glasgow Battalion

Secretary Jim McVean will be taking on a special challenge during the school autumn break (13–19 October). His plan is to walk 140km, beginning at the 1st Vale of Leven BB Hall in Alexandria and visiting each of the 50 current BB Company locations across our Battalion. The journey will finish at the 1st Glasgow in the West End - a symbolic end point for a walk that celebrates the history and community of the Boys' Brigade in Glasgow.

The Vision of the Boys' Brigade is that children and young people experience "life to the full." (John 10:10), the aim of the walk is to raise funds to support local programming and Battalion wide activities and events that make such a difference to young people across Glasgow. If you'd like to support this challenge speak to Stuart Buchanan or visit the web link below, half of what is raised locally (either directly or when the 83rd is mentioned when giving online) comes back to our own company, 83rd Glasgow, with the other half helping to deliver activities around the Battalion.

Jim will be passing by (and potentially receiving some hospitality at) Clinkarthill at around 11.45am on day three of the challenge, Wednesday 15th October, he starts from Cardonald Church at 9.30am, visiting St James Pollok, Pollokshaws, Shawlands Trinity, ourselves, Netherlee & Stamperland, Carmunnock, Greenbank, Williamwood, Orchardhill and ending the day at Newton Mearns.

You can find more information at [bbglasgow.org.uk](http://bbglasgow.org.uk)

There is a Service of Thanksgiving for 140 years of the Glasgow Battalion at Glasgow Cathedral on Sunday 19th October at 11am, we have been invited to send a few boys and leaders; former members and friends of the BB are welcome to attend.



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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Glasgow Street Pastors Training



**All modules will be held at:  
Govan Salvation Army,  
44 Golspie Street,  
G51 3DG for sat nav**

<b>Saturday 04/10/25</b>	<b>Prayer and Sharing the Good News</b>	<b>2pm-4:30pm</b>	<b>Rev Dr Sonia Blakesley and Elizabeth Lacey</b>
<b>Thursday 09/10/25</b>	<b>Working with the Police and Homelessness in Scotland</b>	<b>7pm-9:30 pm</b>	<b>Police Scotland and Glasgow City Mission</b>
<b>Saturday 01/11/25</b>	<b>Drugs Awareness</b>	<b>10am- 12:30pm</b>	<b>Liz Marr</b>
<b>Saturday morning 22/11/25</b>	<b>Mental Health Awareness</b>	<b>10am-1pm</b>	<b>Scott Elvin</b>
<b>Saturday Afternoon 22/11/25</b>	<b>Active Listening and Trauma Informed Care</b>	<b>2pm-4:30pm</b>	<b>Imogen Wootten and Linda Burke</b>

**Elizabeth Lacey [coordinator@gsp.scot](mailto:coordinator@gsp.scot)**

Scottish Charity: SCO:50255



*An Ecumenical Service  
for all people affected by Cancer*

*Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2025*

*4pm*

*Croftfoot United Free Church  
349 Carmunnock Rd  
G44 5HH*

*Reflection by Rev Leslie Edge Chaplain to  
Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice*

*You will hear of the work of the Hospice and  
A collection will be taken up for the Vital Work of the Hospice*

*You will have the opportunity to light a candle and leave a prayer intention for  
yourself or people you know who have been affected by cancer*

*Please join us for refreshments, information and chat afterwards*

*All Welcome*



*A Prayer for October  
an early Scottish prayer*

*Thou who guidest Noah over the flood waves:  
hear us.*

*Thou who with thy word recalled Jonah from  
the deep water: hear us.*

*Thou who stretched forth thine hand to Peter  
as he sank: help us, O Christ*

*Son of God, who didst marvellous things of old,  
be favourable in our day also.*

*Amen*

*Do you need prayer?*

*Contact:*

*0141 632 4206*



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## Clincarthill Church Offerings

For the benefit of visitors, new and not so new members to Clincarthill I thought it worthwhile to mention the various ways the congregation can donate to the church and wider world.

**Standing orders** - The main income for the church is through regular standing orders, just over £3,600 is received each month from 67 members.

**Weekly Freewill Offering (WFO)** - Through the weekly offering envelopes, 14 members give an average of £150 each week (£600/month).

**Open Plate** - On average just under £100 is donated through the open plate each week (£400/month).

**Gift Aid** - Between the Standing Orders and the WFO donations, we are able to claim around £800/month from the taxman because £3,200 of the standing orders and WFO is given through gift aid.

With an average of £4,750 being needed each month to pay for ministry and presbytery dues, the donations we receive are much appreciated especially when the donor is a UK taxpayer and has signed a gift aid declaration.

For those who are busy doing mental arithmetic, I am only covering the direct offerings in this article. Hall lets and donations from the organisations also contribute to our income although it is a challenge to contain the expenditure to the income received.

In addition to donating to the life of the church, there are opportunities to donate to other charities:

**Retiral Offerings** - After each communion service, a Retiral Offering is collected on behalf of a charity chosen by the Kirk Session. There may occasionally be additional retiral offerings as our Christian response to a Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC) appeal or similar situation. So far this year, there have been 3 Retiral Offerings:

*Scottish Bible Society - £65.50*

*Compassion UK - £125.00*

*Blythswood - £140.70*

**Baird Penny Collection** - Pennies (or any UK coins) are collected by members of the congregation and wider community and can be left in the Penny Collection box at the Sanctuary entrance or passed to the counting team. These monies are then distributed to charities working at home and abroad. So far this year £20 has been collected which has still to be disbursed. Last year we collected and distributed £150.

So that covers the main areas for making donations to the church, please just ask me or one of the finance team if you want any further information, If you want to set up or revise your offering, the standing order and gift aid forms are attached at the end of this newsletter for your convenience.

Mary MacCallum - Treasurer.