



## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Friends,

I don't know about you but, as I write this at the start of February, I am very much enjoying the longer hours of daylight and the wonderful signs of new growth with the tiny snowdrops tucked under the hedge and the early irises in the windowsill pots - so many signs of new beginnings. It seems to have been a long, dark winter.

For St George's it has been a long wait to get permission to call its first minister and now the waiting continues until the nominating committee, guided by God's Holy Spirit, finds the person to lead you and to minister to you. Now is a good time to think about change for this time will bring change; change is necessary, change is refreshing, change is challenging. I have said it before - the church, the congregation, the people need to move forward. There is that wonderful expression, 'It's aye been that way...'

I know from my time with you that you are prepared to change, to meet new challenges - the two congregations of Glenburn and Stow Brae both chose change in coming into a Union. We all expected that soon after the Union permission would be granted to call a minister, that did not happen. You had a pause, a pause where the two former congregations had time to knit together. New growth has come from that - making new friends, the Cafe-style church, the Bible studies, the prayer group,... and now the pause is over, the time is right to seek God's choice of minister for you, for St George's.

When your new minister is called, please be prepared to continue to change, to grow, to thrive. Please be ready to embrace both your minister and change. Be ready work together to share God's love in your parish.

May God's richest blessings rest on you and yours,  
Mhairi

The gentlemen of the Men's  
Breakfast celebrating John  
Boyle's birthday, earlier this  
year.

21 again! Happy Birthday John.



The editor would like to thank all who have contributed to this edition of the church magazine. All items for inclusion in the next magazine should be with Irene Gemmell by Sunday 5th May .

Email [igirenegem@gmail.com](mailto:igirenegem@gmail.com)

## Holy Week at St. George's



Begins Palm Sunday 24th March

### Additional services:

Day	Location	Worship led by
Monday	Causeyside	The Guild
Tuesday	Outreach Centre	Kirk Session
Wednesday	Causeyside	Choir
Maundy Thursday	Outreach Centre	Rev Mhairi Breingan
Good Friday	Outreach Centre	Worship Leaders

## 15th Paisley Boy's Brigade Update



Hello,

By the time you read this, we will have shared worship with you again and as ever we hope you enjoyed our efforts. The work of organising was done by our Seniors who used this delivery for the Faith Journey element of their badgework. They're happy to be involved and the preparation involves some interesting discussions on why to use or not use particular sketches or readings.

Kyle Mackay is almost at the end of the work for his Queens Badge. He's volunteering on Saturdays at Accord as well as helping out in Anchors and Juniors on Tuesdays and all of that on top of attendance on Friday nights, school work and his swimming commitments. The last leg of his work will be to attend the completion course over the weekend of 23/24 March and he'll then be presented with his badge at our Presentation evening which is planned for Friday 17 May.

Our Anchors now number 21, the highest number of boys we've had for years, and it's lovely to see and hear them every Tuesday. The Primary 3s are now visiting Juniors every month to help make the transition easier and the Juniors are so looking forward to having a bigger number of boys next session.

Our church is again hosting the Battalion's Anchors Fun afternoon. This year it's on Sat 16 March and Ina and her committee are working away to deliver a great programme celebrating the fact that BB nationally is 140. It's vital the boys understand that BB is much bigger than just us and great to do this with lots of laughter not to mention eats and games!

In the last article I spoke of our overnight at the church and how much the boys enjoyed it. At their request we're doing it all again, just with a different programme and hopefully better weather to allow some outdoor events. This won't take place until May but preparations are already underway.

In the meantime our older boys are planning trips to complete some more of their 140 challenges, one to do some trampolining and the other to Laser Quest.

Although our Anchors keep growing in number there's always room for more boys in any of our sections so if you know of any boy who'd be interested please send him along or come and speak to any of our leaders.

If you'd like to find out about more of our activities please visit our Facebook page – 15th Paisley Boys' Brigade. Thank you as always for your on-going support which really is very much appreciated.

Jan Phillips, Captain





## The Guild



The Guild continues with our planned programme following the longer Festive break. Much of February has been spent planning and organising our annual concert, with music from Clydebank Male Voice and Renfrew Ladies Choirs, as well as our Guild Service with guest Rev. Wesley Hands. Both events will have taken place by the time you are reading this and, I am sure, will have been well supported as always.

We will continue with weekly meetings until the end of April this year hoping to miss the real wintry weather. Our syllabus consists of many varied topics including our UNIDA project, several entertaining musical items including our Elder and Organist, (Elizabeth and Alan respectively), a speaker from Medical Assistance Dogs, an author and a Floral Workshop with our own Elder, Mary White. These are just a few items for your enjoyment.

The Guild, as is customary will lead the first Holy Week Service on 25th March so we have a busy time ahead. There's still time to come and join us for the remainder of the season. You will be made very welcome.

"Whose We are and Whom We Serve"

Pat Colgan

### AUDIO VISUAL EQUIPMENT

A new system will soon be installed in the sanctuary comprising five large TV screens mounted at appropriate points so that they can be seen by everyone in the congregation. The necessary control equipment will be installed at the current live stream control area in the balcony.

The screens will be used to display the words of hymns and readings, as well as any other visual aids that may enhance the service. This will bring us in line with many other churches who are currently using such systems successfully.

The total cost of the work will be about £12000, and whilst we have applied to the Presbytery for a grant from funds which exist for such equipment, a large part of the cost will come from our own resources.

If any member of the congregation would like to make a contribution to the cost, this can be done either by Bank Transfer (Paisley St George's Church, sort code 83-46-00, account No 00190658, Royal Bank of Scotland ), or by a cheque in an envelope placed in the collection trays at a service, marked for the attention of the Treasurer. In both cases please use the reference "AV Project"

If any further information is required, please contact your elder or any of the Session Clerks.





## School Visits

In December, we had very successful visits from the P6 pupils of Langcraigs Primary School and Bushes Primary School. A total of 86 pupils in one day!

The theme was looking beyond all the hype of Christmas and focussing on the birth of Jesus. There were Bible stories, puppets, crafts, drama, singing and a game to share some of the things the young people would like to see change in this world. Some of the pupils also used this game to ask questions about the Bible and the nature of the questions showed that they were really thinking hard about what they had been learning.

We are now preparing for their next visit in March when we will be learning about the events of Holy Week and its significance for everyone. There will be more Bible stories, crafts, drama, singing and I hope the pupils will have more questions –but not too hard!

Please pray for the pupils and the staff who come with them, pray also for all the volunteers who help run these events.

## Regular Events at Paisley St George's Outreach Centre

**Connect Hub** meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 1.30-3pm. This is an informal time of worship with tea, coffee and chat. All are welcome.

**The Bible Study Group** meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm.

**A Prayer Meeting** is held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm.

**Learning Together** meets every Wednesday from 10am to 12noon where there is knitting, crochet, crafts and a cuppa.

*If you are looking for company or something to do, why not come along and give some*

