

# Netherlee and Stamperland Church Newsletter

January 2021

## A Message from our Minister

Friends, I can't remember if it is true or not, but I remember once hearing that the original meaning in Greek of the word '*crisis*' is one of threat or opportunity. So much of our modern use of the word deals only with the first half of this traditional meaning. Therefore, people have come to see crisis as a time in which we see only darkness and negativity.

However, I try to persist within every crisis to see what is the potential and what are new possibilities that might arise. I was thinking about this when a good friend of mine, Rev. Peter Millar, who is forever writing and thinking about our world, sent me a little book as he had just heard about the death of my Dad. He himself has been living with cancer for some years now and has been one of those shielding throughout the last year. He therefore, wrote a little reflection each month and he has just had them published. On reading through one, I thought there was a paragraph worth quoting for us all:

Peter writes:

*"Yes there is fear. Yes there is isolation. Yes there is panic buying. Yes there is sickness. Yes there is even death. But, they say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise, you can hear again the song of birds. They say that just after a few days of quiet, the sky is no longer thick with fumes but blue and grey and clear. They say that in the streets of Assisi people are singing to each other across the empty squares keeping the windows open so that those who are alone may hear the sounds of family around them.*

*All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting. All over the world, people are looking at their neighbours in a new way. All over the world, people are waking up to a new reality - to how big we really are: to how little control we really have; to what really matters. To love."* (Candle in the Window by Rev. Peter Millar)

In the midst of renewed lockdown, we need to be aware of the full picture of what is happening around us. I believe that we are moving forward and that by the end of this year we will be in a different place. Along with feeling safer, I believe we will be looking forward to a new future and new world.

Scott

*(If any of you would be interested in obtaining a copy of Peter's reflections, please let me know. It can be obtained easily for a small donation to the Dr. Dorothy Millar Charitable Trust which supports some small projects for change and care all over the world.)*

## **Worship**

Following recent Government lockdown advice, Scott's address will be found on the church YouTube channel every Sunday. Steven is providing musical links for hymns, an anthem and a voluntary. These links will be found on the FaceBook pages.

## **The Forum**

Niall Illingworth will give a presentation to the Forum via Zoom on Monday, 18th January at 7.30pm, entitled "Dementia Lunch Club - a step into the unknown."

The programme for the Forum this year is as follows:

18th January 2021 7.30 pm	Niall Illingworth "Dementia Lunch Club - a step into the unknown."
15th February 2021 7.30 pm	Alison McKean presentation on her cycle ride in the Far East
15th March 2021 7.30 pm	Jan Savage Executive team Enable Scotland.

## **Virtual Afternoon Tea and Chat**

You are invited to a virtual afternoon tea on Thursday 21 January via Zoom at 2 30 pm. This is a great opportunity to catch up with folks over a cup of tea/ coffee.....whatever and hear what you've been up to over lockdown. You may have discovered new places to walk, rekindled skills or even learnt new ones. So what are your hot tips for keeping your pecker up at this challenging time? Please Zoom along and hear what's been happening!

## **A Message from Marie Wilson**

Here is a link you may want to offer as a prayerful support during these difficult times that folk may not be aware of as a call to prayer each Sunday at 7pm by the leaders of the Christian Communities in our country throughout the pandemic.

Personally, I have found both the short reflection and a prayer or two resourceful tools of each week when offering support to those not online and feeling isolated depending on circumstances.

<https://churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2021/join-us-in-prayer-this-sunday-at-7pm>

## **Lodging House Mission**

Many thanks for all the donations to the Lodging House Mission in the form of knitted hats, scarves, etc, food supplies, cheques, afternoon teas. The grand total is £1,060. We hope that this helped to share a little Christmas cheer at E. Campbell St.

Jean Pearson

p.p.s. My neighbour, who is rather fond of afternoon teas enjoyed the Poppy Scotland tea and the Christmas LHM tea." When will the next one be?" she asked. "Easter?" !!!

## **Glasgow South East Food Bank**

Glasgow South East Food Bank would like to thank the congregation of Netherlee and Stamperland Church for their continued support. They can only do what they do as people continue to support them. This year over Christmas as well food and presents, they were able to give families at least £70.00 of vouchers for Farmfoods and B&M.

As we are getting into the new year and another lockdown and with more businesses being closed, they are as busy as ever.

Items requested are.....Cooking oil ( either 500ml or 1 litre size}, diluting juice, plain flour, tinned vegetables (not beans), toothpaste and soap.

These items can either be put in the collecting receptacle at Sainsbury's Muirend.

There also is a Just Giving page which can be found on the Glasgow South East Foodbank website. (Please note that Just Giving takes a small amount of your donation.)

Marjorie Lang

## **Church Website**

We are planning to have a new website for our church to replace the existing separate sites for Netherlee and Stamperland. Hopefully, the new site can build on the best aspects of the existing web pages.

We are seeking views from all of our members in relation to the content and appearance of our new website. You are invited to send comments about any features of the existing web sites which you would like to see replicated in the new version as well as topics or aspects of church life which you would like to see covered in the new site which don't appear in the existing sites.

*Comments should be e-mailed to [normanbolton@virginmedia.com](mailto:normanbolton@virginmedia.com)*

## Sunday Club

We are back! Well on Zoom again while the current restrictions apply. Happy New Year to you all from everyone in the Sunday Club.

We did enjoy meeting in person before Christmas to make our Nativity Video. We hope you enjoyed the film. A huge thank you to everyone involved, especially Neil Planner who was Director, Producer, Cameraman and all things Postproduction. If you missed it, you can see it here. <https://youtu.be/CAKtWpT7Dnc> . We also supported the Netherlee Advent Windows with our younger members making candles and the senior Sunday Clubbers making a large Christingle for the windows on Ormonde Avenue. The Christmas Tree outside the Netherlee Sanctuary was decorated with rainbow ribbons made by the Senior Sunday Club. They also made candle tree decorations which were left outside the church for passers-by to take for their trees at home. We hope that the light of Christmas shone on you and yours during the Festive Season. "The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it". John 1:5

It was so good to see all the Sunday Clubbers in person, but as we were not able to do our usual fund-raising events with the congregation, we made collection boxes for.

Sunday Club was back Zoom on Sunday 10th of January. Following our collections last year for Luke and Russell's Sponsored walk, adding £56 to their fundraising for Christian Aid, we looked the gift given to the infant Christ by the 3 Kings. We have continued collection and brown pennies we gathered when back in person have amounted to £61. We will top this up and purchase items most needed for the foodbank. We will let you know what we bought in the next newsletter. I am sure most of you are hardly using cash these days, but please do continue to save your brown pennies for the Sunday Club. We can collect them when it is safe for us all to be together again, at least light starting to shine in the darkness there too.

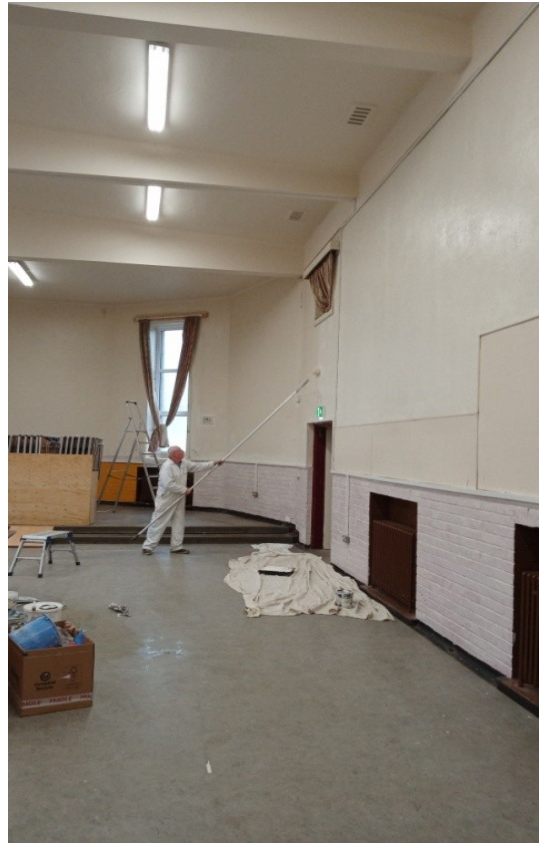
We will continue every Sunday on Zoom at 10am for now for the Sunday Clubbers. Regular members will receive an email with a Zoom link but contact the Church Office for more details if you would like to join us. All welcome. Senior Sunday Clubbers have their own sessions. Stay safe and God bless for 2021.



## **Redecoration of the Stamperland Halls**

Following the completion of the electrical rewiring a team of volunteer painters has been busy painting walls and woodwork throughout our hall accommodation. The work is ongoing and it is hoped it will not be too long before the halls are once again occupied and alive with the sound of babies, youths, choirs, etc..

Our thanks go to all volunteers especially Connell Cranston, Tony Ireland and Russell Brown who have given many hours of their time.



## **Birthday Wishes**

Best wishes and many happy returns to Scott on the occasion of his big birthday.....not his 21<sup>st</sup>!

## **And finally.....**

A few words from the bard sourced by Dagmar Kerr.

### **A Grace Before Dinner**

*O thou who kindly dost provide*

*For every creature's want!*

*We bless Thee, God of Nature wide,*

*For all Thy goodness lent:*

*And if it please Thee, Heavenly Guide,*

*May never worse be sent;*

*But, whether granted, or denied,*

*Lord, bless us with content. Amen!*