

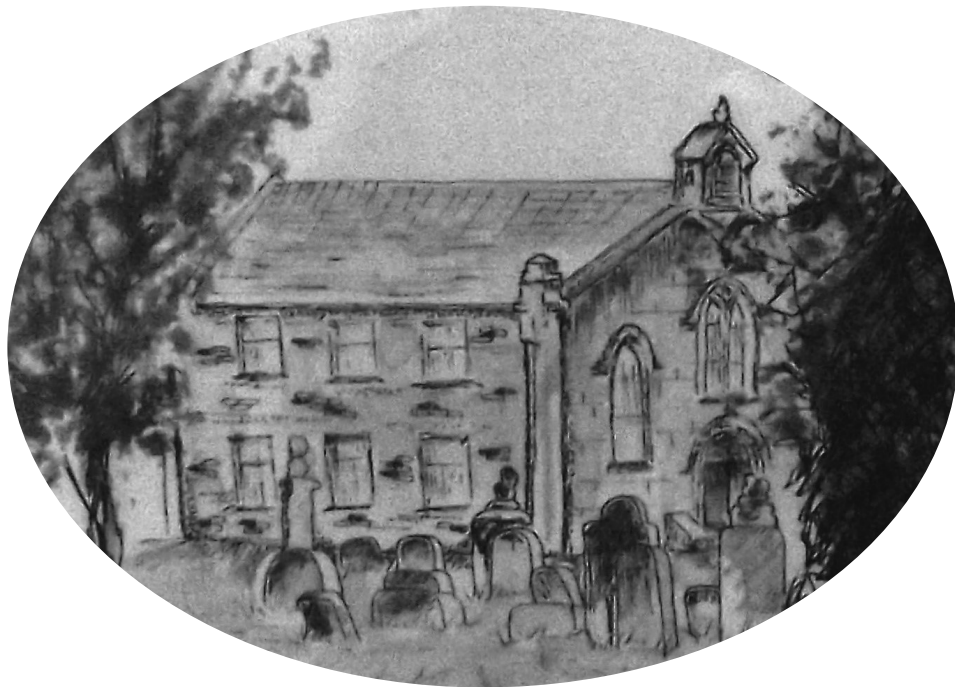
Issue No. 52



Winter 2024

Clarkston Church Record

The newsletter from
Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland



Our Mission

We, the people of Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church, seek to celebrate God's presence and love through prayer, worship, fellowship and service in the life of our Church, our community and in the wider world.

In this issue.....

Ministerial Matters

News from the Boys Brigade, the Rainbows and Messy Church

Advent and Christmas Church services information

and the return of the Community Cafe

Church Weekly Calendar

- Sun Morning Worship, at 11:00am
Crèche during morning worship,
for babies & children aged 0-3
years
After church tea/coffee, in the
Church Hall
12:00 noon
- Tue The Guild
2:00pm every 2nd and 4th Tuesday
(Oct - Mar)
Church Board & Session
Meetings
7:00pm-9:00pm,
2nd Tuesday (Sept-June)
"Messy Church"
3rd December
4th February 2025
11th March 2025
"Vintage Messy Church"
26th November
4th March 2025
- Thurs Property Maintenance Group
a.k.a "Land Army"
10:00am-12:00noon
Carpet Bowling Group
2:00pm-4:00pm (Oct - Apr)
Boys Brigade Junior Section
7:00pm-8.30pm
- Fri Boys Brigade Anchor Boys
6.00pm-7.00pm
Boys Brigade Company Section
7.30pm-10.00pm

For more details on any of the above
activities, please contact the Session
Clerk (details on the back page), or see
the church website,

www.airdriec Clarkstonparishchurch.org.uk

or follow us on Facebook at
"Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church"



Newsletter Dates

Next Edition Spring

Publish Date 16th Mar 2025 (TBC)

Congregational Register

Funerals

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted"

With sadness we record the death of the following church
member.

Tom Baxter

Funeral held at Co-op Funeralcare, Airdrie
followed by burial at Old Monkland Cemetery
on 7th October 2024

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends

Don't forget

Clarkston Church

**Community
Cafe**

Every Thursday

11am - 2pm

**Warm Welcome, Warm Place, Warm
Food**

Lead by a dynamic, helpful caring team

Come along and relax

&

Let the team look after YOU

Ministerial Matters

Dear friends,

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I hope you are well. I am writing this letter in the middle of November and according to a local shop it is only 43 sleeps until Christmas! As we approach once again the celebration of our Lord's Nativity, we do so in a time of great uncertainty – within our nation and across the world.

Even within the Church, there is a great deal of anxiety about the future of local congregations as well as anxiety about the future of our denomination.

And yet, as Christians, we look forward in faith and with hope. We know the end of the story. At the appointed time, God will re-make the heavens and the earth. A heavenly city, the new Jerusalem, will come down to earth and God will make his home with us. His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, has been raised from the dead. He now sits on the throne as Lord of Lords and King of Kings. One day every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Two thousand years ago, things also seemed pretty bleak. God's people had been waiting for the promised Messiah for a long time. Back then, the world was ruled by tyrants like Caesar and King Herod. Many people had given up hope. And yet, because he loved the world so much, the Father sent his Son into the world. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us – coming to us in the form a helpless baby, born into poverty, with no place to rest other than a stable.

In the Holy Gospel according to St Luke, we are told that when the prophet John the Baptist was born, his father, Zechariah, held him up and said over him:

And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;

To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins,

Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,

To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into

the way of peace.

I have always loved the phrase - *'the dayspring from on high'*.

The coming of Jesus is like the arrival of a long-awaited dawn. His advent (or coming) dispels the darkness and chases away the shadows. His light lasts forever – it cannot be extinguished.

And so, this Christmas, let us look forward in faith and with great hope. For the dayspring on high has visited us and will come again. He first came as the Christ Child lying in the manger. He will return in glory as King of creation! In him all things are made new. All things in heaven and on earth are reconciled in him and through him. And so, we have nothing to fear – for if Christ is with us, who can stand against us?

When Christmas comes, I hope it is a time of blessing for you and those you love. I pray that you would know that peace of the Christ Child – the peace that this world cannot give. The peace that passes all understanding. The peace that can only come only through knowing the Prince of Peace.

In the words of St Paul:

(Continued on page 4)

Ministerial Matters (contd)

(Continued from page 3)

*Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again:
Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all.
The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about
anything, but in every situation, by prayer and
petition, with thanksgiving, present your
requests to God. And the peace of God, which
transcends all understanding, will guard your
hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

You are always in my prayers. May God bless you
and keep you – may the Lord lift up his
countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

Hanna

Harvest Thanksgiving



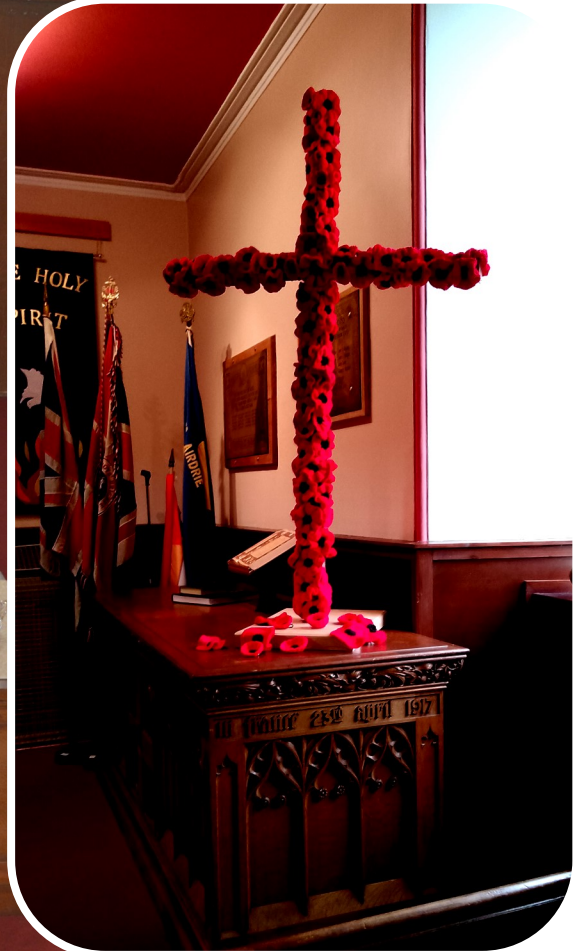
On Sunday 13th October we celebrated Harvest Thanksgiving in Church.

Hanna's sermon really gave us food for thought as she demonstrated through interaction with the congregation the extent of food poverty throughout the world.

Thanks to the generosity of the congregation over twenty bags of groceries were able to be sent to the Food Bank.

Brenda Robertson

Remembrance Service Poppy Display



At the Remembrance Sunday Church service on the 10th November the congregation were treated to the sight of the display of knitted poppies, as shown in the photographs above.

All the poppies (over 500 in total) had been knitted by members of the congregation and friends, with wool donated by other congregation members.

A small team gathered all the finished poppies together and hand stitched them onto a net backing in the case of the drape coming down from the pulpit to the communion table (above left) .

So many poppies had been knitted that it was then decided to add the remainder to the rustic cross that is often on display in the Church (above right).

Our grateful thanks go to all those who helped to make this display a reality.

The main poppy display drape has now been safely stored away ready for future use.

Editorial Team

Organisations News



2nd Airdrie Rainbows

The Rainbows have been busy recently with lots of activities, one favourite being making hedgehogs from fairy cakes, chocolate icing and buttons which they all enjoyed. After a very enjoyable Halloween party the Rainbows and Brownies



3rd Airdrie Boys Brigade

The boys have had a busy start to the session. All three sections attend the founders day parade in Blairhill Dundyan Church and also the sponsored fun run at Drumpellier loch with a good turnout from the boys at each event.

The Anchor boys continue to have lots of fun on Friday nights; they have made spooky lanterns for Halloween and had a great Halloween party, and

came together for a joint meeting in November due to leader shortages and the Rainbows enjoyed spending time with the Brownies.

The Rainbows took part in the Church Remembrance service with six Rainbows and their parents attending. A big well done to Poppy and Jessica who carried the Rainbow flag.

Our new Rainbows who have joined us since August are working towards making their Rainbow Promise. When they are ready to make the Promise

coloured posters for Remembrance Sunday which were displayed in the church. The boys are now practicing for their competition which is small games like the egg and spoon race and the wheelbarrow race.

The Junior section are continuing to practice for their competitions, the first is the Top Team Quiz on Wednesday 13th November, then it is the Physical Training (PT) and Board games at the end of November. Hopefully we will have good results in all three.

we hope to invite their parents to come and watch their daughter making their Promise.

Lastly, I am very grateful to all the parents who have volunteered to help at Rainbows over the last month or so to cover for leader shortages.

Margaret MacFall

Unit Leader

2nd Airdrie Rainbows

The company section came 4th in their Top Team Quiz and 1st in their PT competition which we have won for the last three years.

We continue to have good numbers in each section with between 65 and 70 boys attending each week across the three sections.

We also had a very good turnout of boys for the Remembrance Day service in our church.

Archie Easton

Captain

3rd Airdrie Boys Brigade



Some photographs from the September and November Messy Church meetings



Forthcoming Messy Church meetings:

VINTAGE MESSY CHURCH
for Advent -
Tuesday 26th November
10.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m

Christmas Messy Church
Tuesday 3rd December

Future dates for the diary are:

Messy Church
Tuesday 4th February

Messy Church
Tuesday 11th March

VINTAGE MESSY CHURCH
for Lent -
Tuesday 4th March
10.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.

Please join us at any of the events. You will be made most welcome.

Barbara Sefton

Church services over the Advent and Christmas periods

The Season of Advent and Christmas will soon be here and there are a few special services taking place that you may wish to attend.

Sunday 1 st December:	1 st Sunday of Advent Morning Service 11:00am
Sunday 8 th December:	2 nd Sunday of Advent Morning Service 11:00am Carol Service 6.30pm at Airdrie: Cairnlea Parish Church
Sunday 15 th December:	3 rd Sunday of Advent Messy Church led Nativity service 11:00am Joint service with Airdrie: Cairnlea Parish Church (to be held at Airdrie: Clarkston Parish Church) Christingle service 6:30pm A service for the whole family where we reflect on the true meaning of Christmas
Sunday 22 nd December:	4 th Sunday of Advent Morning Service 11:00am
Tuesday 24 th December:	Watchnight Service 11.30pm Come and sing carols as we see in Christmas morning and wish each other a Merry Christmas!
Wednesday 25 th December:	Christmas Day Service at Airdrie: Cairnlea Parish Church
Sunday 29 th December:	Service of Nine lessons and Carols

All services will take place in Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church unless otherwise stated.

Come and join in the Celebrations!

Church Contacts

Minister:	Rev Hanna Rankine 07990 620989 email: hrankine@churchofscotland.org.uk	By Post: Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church Forrest Street, Airdrie. ML6 7BE
Session Clerk:	Mr C. Sefton	By phone: 01236 756862
Clerk to the Board:	Mrs J. Codona	By email: airdriec Clarkstonparishchurch@gmail.com
Property Convenor:	Position vacant	Website: www.airdriec Clarkstonparishchurch.org.uk
Treasurer:	Mrs K. Harrison	Facebook: "Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church" Charity No: SC011239

The next issue of this newsletter will be the Spring edition, which is scheduled for publication in March 2025.

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