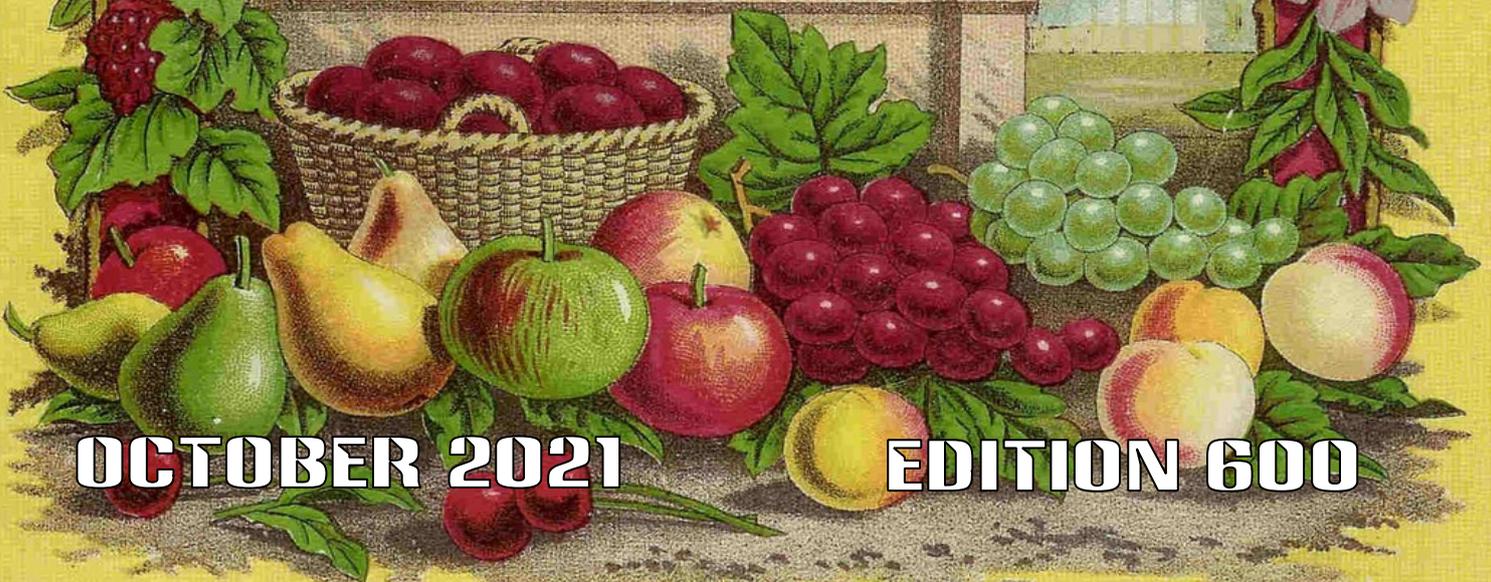


EKO

The Magazine for
East Kilbride
Old Parish Church



OCTOBER 2021

EDITION 600

CHURCH CALENDAR



Our church services continue to take place in the church and be broadcast over the internet and through Facebook.

The church's capacity has been increased by the removal of restricted seating in the central area downstairs. Elsewhere the restrictions are in place for those who still want to distance. Face coverings are still to be worn although singing is now allowed even through the face covering.

If you are attending the church you must still book in through Louise since track and trace is still in operation.

OCTOBER

Sunday 3rd	<i>Sacrament of Communion</i>	11am
Sunday 10th	<i>Harvest Thanksgiving</i>	11am
Sunday 17th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 24th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 31st	Morning Worship	11am

NOVEMBER

Sunday 7th	Morning Worship	11am
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PASTORAL LETTER



The last few weeks of unseasonal warm weather has in some ways tricked us into believing that we're still in the season of summer. If anything reminded us that we're now definitely into autumn, it was the return on our televisions of the new series of "Strictly Come Dancing." I certainly know where I will be in the Saturday evenings running up to Christmas, for I'm a great fan. I love to see how the celebrity dancers progress or otherwise, and if the underdog comes out on top like last year, so much the better.

Now that summer has most definitely gone, we in the church can begin to plan for our new season ahead. Firstly, we have our Communion season at the start of October which then leads us into our Harvest thanksgiving service. Before long we will be thinking about Remembrance Sunday and Advent and I don't want to frighten you, but Christmas is coming soon after that.

There is something very reassuring in the midst of what are still very unsure and difficult times of the regularity of the seasons. They come and will pass, and we don't need to do anything but sit back and experience them. We can't speed them up and hurry to get back to summer and the warmer weather, nor can we slow them down and linger by our firesides a little longer.

I love the bible phrase, "And it came to pass...", for no matter what is happening in our lives, we can't speed them up nor slow them down. Each season brings what it will and all we can do is trust that God is with us through every season, the good and happy ones as well as the more difficult and challenging ones. Yet amongst it all, we have the assurance that each season will come to pass.

I hope that you can join us for worship in the weeks and months ahead as we return to our familiar pattern of the seasons. Should you be unable to join with us, I hope you will be able to experience the seasons of the church in another way, but be assured that as we journey together, we are all surrounded by prayer, and that the love of God is in our midst.

Yours in love,

Anne Eaton

KIRK LIFE

Just to say that the proposed Bruce Davies concert has been cancelled.

However, looking forward on a more positive note, if anyone has anything they could donate for raffle prizes, please contact any Kirk Life team member and we can make arrangements if necessary to get them picked up.

Thank you!

Ken Ross - Kirk Life Convenor



BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY

Most people would probably think that at the present time a Session Clerk had better things to do while taking a short break than to visit the location of a highly infectious and very unpleasant disease, but that's just what this Session Clerk did a couple of weeks ago !

The historic and beautiful village of Eyam in Derbyshire's Peak District is best known for an 17th century event when a plague, which had spread widely across Europe came to Eyam in the summer of 1665, possibly in a bale of cloth brought up from London. The people in the house where it came to, caught the disease and died in a short space of time. Before long, others had caught the disease and also died, after a short and very painful illness.

The rector of the village church, Rev. William Mompesson led a campaign to prevent the disease spreading outside the village to the surrounding area. This involved the people of the village remaining in the village and being supplied with necessary provisions by people outside. There is still on the outskirts of the village a location called the Boundary stone, where traditionally, money was placed in small holes for the provisions which those from the local area brought for the villagers. As a result of this action, the disease did not spread but almost a third of the villagers died.

Local historians will have noticed the similarity between this arrangement and the situation when the plague raged in Glasgow, the people in Kilbride, would not take their marketable goods close to the city and instead established a temporary market-place on a hill about half a mile to the north of Kilbride, on the old road to Glasgow, which has ever since retained the name of the Markethill.

Sadly, in the case of Eyam, the infection spread rapidly throughout the

village during the autumn, slowing down in the winter only to return with greater vigour in the spring and summer the following year, reaching a peak in August when 78 people died in the month. In the fourteen months the danger lasted, it claimed 260 lives out of a population of around 800.



Although now known widely as the 'Plague Village' Eyam is today a pretty little village with a church dating back to Saxon times which has an original font and Norman pillars, and a well-preserved eighth-century Celtic Cross one of its most striking features. This little church is truly the centre of village life, is open every day, and uses all available modern means of communication with villagers including Facebook and a website and online services. The church is currently engaged in a public consultation on an ambitious church Improvement Plan for renovating and re-modelling the sanctuary. *(anyone interested can find more details on this go-ahead church at <https://www.eyamchurch.org>)*

The fascinating story of the unselfish villagers, who sealed themselves off from the outside world in the 17th century to prevent the deadly disease from spreading to neighbouring communities is told in great detail in the local museum. The village is managed by the National Trust and, for anyone weary of the 21st century pandemic, has many more attractions for the visitor than sto-

ries of a deadly plague ! *Alistair Walker*—Session Clerk

GUILD STARTING AGAIN

The committee has met and is planning to start the Guild Meetings again on Wednesday 13th October at 1.30pm in the Glebe Street Hall. So far we have managed to arrange a programme for the first three meetings. On October 13th we will use the 2021 World Day of Prayer Service. On October 27th David Atkins will give us a Powerpoint show - his cruise down the Danube - which we had to cancel 18 months ago. Then on November 10th a speaker from the Fire Service will explain the new rules for fire safety in our homes. We hope to be able to plan for our fortnightly meetings right through to March.

Under the present rules in East Kilbride Old Parish we have to be seated one metre apart on chairs only, without sitting around tables as we would normally do. We all need to wear masks (except for the speaker). There needs to be hand-sanitising on entering and leaving. Track and Trace means your name and phone number will be noted when you arrive. At present there is no use of the kitchen, so no tea, coffee or biscuits. I would try to make the meetings not longer than an hour, since we have to wear masks.

Later if the rules change we could be seated three to a table, have tea and coffee and wrapped biscuits. There is to be no movement around the hall. Continue to wear masks except when eating. Only 2 persons in the kitchen and serving. Use of dishwasher for hygiene.

All of this is difficult but I hope you will feel able to come along and join your friends and enjoy the Guild again. The Guild headquarters is keen to encourage Guilds to start again and has offered useful guidance. They have even reduced the capitation fee to £9. This supports the work of the Guild throughout Scotland.

Hope to see you soon.

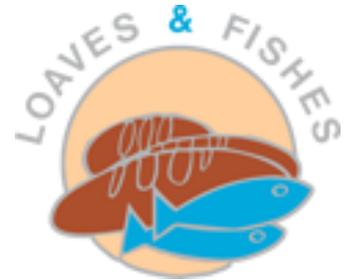
Mary Smith (President)



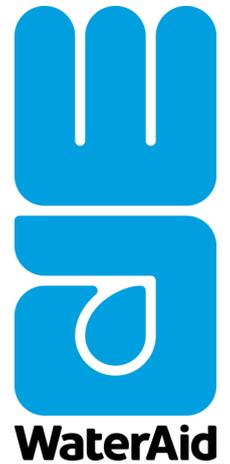
HARVEST APPEAL

Sunday 10th October will be our Harvest Sunday. The Kirk Session decided that as in previous years we should support two charities, one local and one abroad.

Loaves and Fishes is one of our East Kilbride Food Banks. The demand for emergency food for families has been extremely high and is likely to increase if Universal Credit is cut and more people are poorly paid or unemployed.



Water Aid is an international agency. One in ten people worldwide still don't have clean water. Water Aid is working in poor countries to provide wells and rooftop water tanks. They are teaching people to manage their water supply in the face of drought. They are providing toilets, handwashing facilities and encouraging good hygiene.



You can donate by sending a **cheque** made out to East Kilbride Old Parish marked Harvest Appeal on the back to Des Laverty, 36, Bourtree Road, Hamilton, ML3 8PT. Or you can phone Des on 07402192610 and he will give you the details to **pay by bank transfer**. Or you can put your donation in an **envelope** marked Harvest Appeal and drop it in the offering plate at church.

You can find more information about the charities on their websites.

Mary Smith



MEN'S ASSOCIATION AND CARPET BOWLING

The plan is to start the new session of the Men's Association and the Carpet Bowling this month.

The start date for the Men's Association is Monday 18th October. However, there will be a big change from our normal practice. We will meet in the Glebe Street Hall, and we will meet in the afternoon, at 2pm. Our Speaker will be Jim Ballantyne, speaking about his experiences as a teacher.



The Carpet Bowling Club will begin the following week, Monday 25th October, also in the Glebe Street Hall, at 2pm.

By the time we start both groups, the Covid regulations may have been reduced, but at the moment, several of these are in force and unless there is a change, we will be obliged to observe them.



A warm welcome is extended to past and new members, to either or both our groups.

Stewart Smith

LINE DANCING CLASS



Line dancing class is to resume on Monday 11th Oct

6.30 to 7.15 - Beginner /improver rolling into

Improver/advanced 7.15 to 8.30.

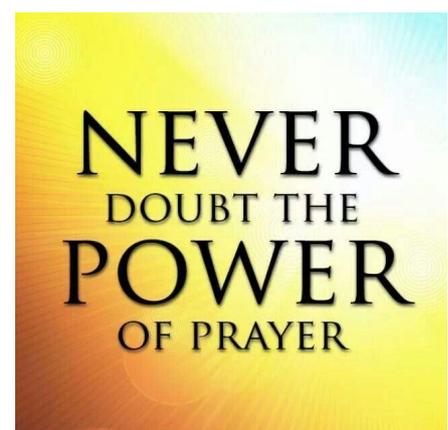
Contact number must be provided for track and trace.

Thanks. *Alison Middleton*

The Prayer Diary

- 1st. Father keep us forever looking forward in our Old Parish Church, mindful that we need to be good stewards in order to pass on a healthy church.
- 2nd. Father strengthen my ability to concentrate and give time to what is important.
- 3rd. O Lord, I thank you for your love and your world.
- 4th. We give thanks for our families who support us, may we all have good health and many happy years together.
- 5th. Lord, we thank you that you are the same yesterday today and forever.
- 6th. Father be close to and protect all who ask for your help.
- 7th. Dear Lord, be with all in distress and give them comfort.
- 8th. Lord, I pray for all faithful Christians at work in our community.
- 9th. Dear Lord, I pray for those in Hamilton Presbytery working on the future of the churches and their ministers and their congregations.
- 10th. Lord, today is our Harvest Festival and we pray for those at work in Loaves & Fishes and also Water Aid.
- 11th. Bless our church as many of our groups start again after such a long break.
- 12th. Pray for our farming community and for the vital work they do for us.
- 13th. Lord, bless all our church teams and the work they do keeping our buildings and affairs in good order.
- 14th. Lord, I pray for our hospital communities and the great work they do.
- 15th. Lord, I pray for those in fuel poverty and all those who will be adversely affected by the rise in fuel prices to come.
- 16th. Today Lord, I pray for the disadvantaged and downtrodden. Give them hope for a better future.
- 17th. Dear Lord, bless our minister Anne for all the wonderful work she does in our church and in the ecclesiastical community.

- 18th. Lord, I pray for the Christians around the world who are under repression for their beliefs. Give them hope and comfort.
- 19th. I pray today for the people of Afghanistan who live in fear of the Taliban government and their repressive ideals.
- 20th. Lord, bless the people working in Women's Aid for all the goodness they bring to these disadvantaged women and their families.
- 21st. Lord, I pray today for those suffering from the effects of Covid 19. May they make a full and speedy recovery.
- 22nd. Lord, help us to be strong in faith and faithful in our prayers.
- 23rd. Pray for tolerance and understanding for people different to ourselves.
- 24th. Lord, thank you for all the wonders of our world which we take for granted and are beautiful to behold.
- 25th. Lord, I pray for those who have drifted from the path of righteousness. Bring them back to a full understanding of the Kingdom of God.
- 26th. Lord, thank you for being with me every day and guiding me in the things I do.
- 27th. Lord, I give thanks for my family and all the good people I my life.
- 28th. Lord, bless all our medical scientists working to give us a better and safer world to live in.
- 29th. Dear Lord, let all our children become aware of your great presence in the world.
- 30th. God of mercy, bless all children living in difficulty and ill health. Give them healing and comfort for a better future.
- 31st. Lord, thank you for being with me every day, guiding me and helping me especially when the going gets tough.



UPDATE FROM IAIN SHAW

Our new session officially began on Sunday 22nd August. We currently have a weekly Zoom Sunday School session at 9am, an in-person Sunday School session in the upper hall at 11am and a weekly children's art group at 4.30pm on a Thursday afternoon in the Glebe St Hall.

We ran a **Messy Church** session in September and had planned to run these monthly as well as family film afternoons and family fun events but following our Messy Church session at which we had 27 people and 8 families we have decided to postpone any further monthly family events until the new year or until the current restrictions / guidelines allow us to hold these sessions in a way in which the family experience can be enriched.

Sunday School

We currently get an average of 15 children / young people join us on a Sunday morning either on Zoom or in person. We are using Spill the Beans teaching material which has a distinct Scottish flavour and is written by contributors, some of whom who are known to us, and this material is currently serving us very well.

Family Service – Harvest Thanksgiving - Sunday 10th October

All children and families who attend any of our groups will be invited to join us at this family service. The children will participate in the service as well producing art work for the well-known hymn: "Who put the colours in the rainbow" which will feature during the service. Hopefully it will be a busy, noisy, but joyous and blessed occasion and I am sure the congregation will welcome the children and their families to this service.

Prize Giving Service – Sunday 24th October

As we haven't had such an event for quite a while, we thought it would be appropriate to acknowledge and celebrate the children's loyalty, dedication and achievements particularly during the past 18 months of the Covid pandemic. As such we will present each child / young person with an age-appropriate Bible during the service on 24th October.

Art Group

The group meet on a Thursday afternoon from 4.30-6pm in our Glebe St

Hall and it is going superbly well. We have 24 primary school aged children registered & a group of dedicated volunteers & young leaders helping out. Our average weekly attendance has been 20 and judging by the noise, laughter, smiling faces as well as the outstanding arts and crafts produced the children are having a great time.

A Plea for Help

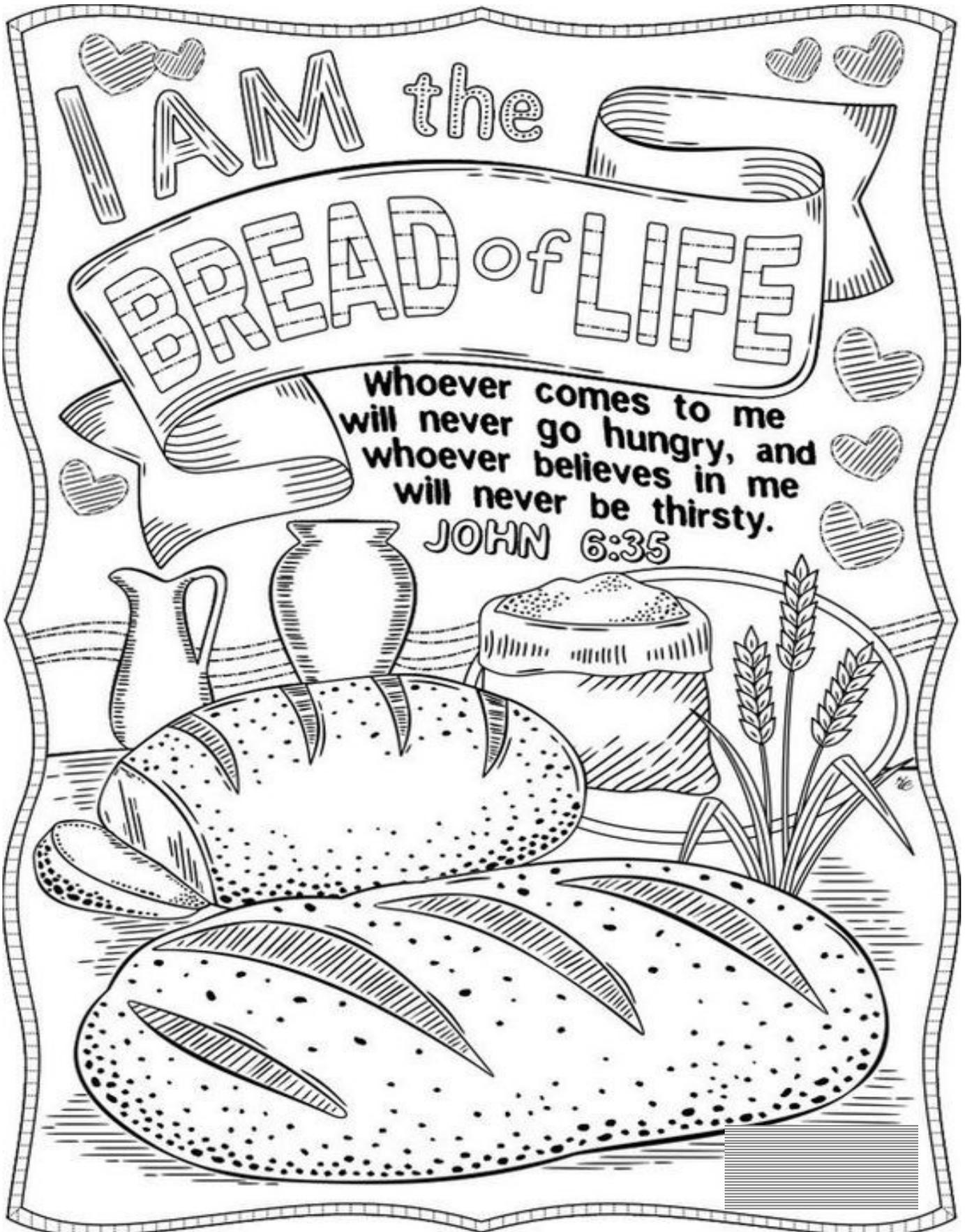
Once the restrictions allow and it is safe to do so, I would like to start 2 new groups (a youth group for P5-P7 children and a Sports Group) and have monthly family events such as Messy Church, Family Film afternoons, Fun Family events etc. But to start such groups or hold monthly events / activities will take a team of willing volunteers / helpers – so if you or you know of anyone who would be interested in helping out at any of the above events / activities, please let me know and I will arrange to speak to them and provide them with more information etc. This will not be a lifetime commitment but hopefully if enough people come forward, we can operate a rota system to suit the needs / commitments of any interested person(s) and we can also arrange training as required.

In closing it would be very remiss of me not to thank all the volunteers & helpers, not forgetting our young helpers, who help and assist and without their outstanding contribution none of the above would be possible. My grateful thanks and gratitude to all of them.

Please keep all the work we do and have planned over the next few months with our children, young people and families in your thoughts and prayers and I want to say thank you for your continued prayers, support and encouragement. I really value and appreciate them.

Jain (Children, Youth & Families Worker)

mobile 07912 295943 / email jainshaw18@gmail.com



PASTORAL REGISTER

Baptisms “Make all nations my disciples”

Theia Mara Duncanson

Esme Rose Logan

Edith Rose Mulholland

Deaths “I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

Doreen Duncan

Janet Shiach



EKO SUBMISSIONS

If you would normally hand write/type material and give it to the editor would you please phone me and dictate it. My numbers are below.

The deadline for submitting all material for the November edition of the EKO is:

Wednesday 27th October

Thank you. *David Kent* - Editor

01355 237275, 07890 262267 or, davidkent28@virginmedia.com



EAST KILBRIDE OLD PARISH CHURCH

In case of illness and bereavement, would the family please contact the minister immediately and directly.

Rev. Anne Paton will be available for consultation in the vestry after Sunday morning worship. Please arrange such consultation with the door duty team.

East Kilbride Old Parish Church, Church of Scotland, Scottish Charity—SC000609

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Treasurer	Mr Ronnie Niven	
Roll Keeper	Mr Robert Cossar	
Gift Aid	Mr Des Laverty	
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