



December 2017

FOCUS

The Magazine of Busby Parish Church

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Busby Drama Group presents

on 11th, 12th & 13th
January 2018

in Busby Parish Church Hall

at 7.30pm

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from 01355 901766

Mother
GOOSE
the Pantomime



FOCUS

The Magazine of
Busby Parish Church

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Mornings

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Message from the Manse

Jerry Eve



There's always something happening in Church life, and as I look back over the last few weeks, since towards the end of August we've already had 3 baptisms on consecutive Sundays, 2 weddings on different Saturday afternoons, a Youth Service, a Festival of Harvest Thanksgiving, two of our young people who were at the Church of Scotland's Youth Assembly sharing their time there with us on one Sunday morning, a very moving elder-led service with Iain Murray in the pulpit, and a Service of Dedication for a new lectern unveiled in memory of Jimmy and Marianne Deas. And that's just what I can remember off the top of my head.

Over the weeks to come we'll have a Remembrance Sunday Service and Guild Week too; and then during Advent a full programme beginning with the Choir's Nine Lessons and Carols, and culminating on Sunday 24 December with the Sunday School Nativity in the morning, and then in the evening and spilling over into Christmas Day itself our Watchnight Service.

As well as all the activities that take place throughout the week. It's a busy time of the year, and we wouldn't want it any other way. In fact, the busier the better, and so if you're reading this and think you're maybe missing out, then do please come along, and join us, when I hope you'll be made to feel very welcome indeed.



Message from the Session Clerk

Robin Bulmer

At the October Glasgow Presbytery meeting the 'church review' for Busby Parish Church was received. This submission sets out a 5-year plan for our church and identifies some of the key actions that we wish to focus on in order to fulfil our aim to continue as a sustainable congregation maintaining its place as a centre of Church of Scotland Worship within the wide Parish that is Busby including Thorntonhall. Six of these actions were highlighted: (i) Organise, plan and present team-led services of worship including representatives from youth organisations and expand pulpit exchange to include Elders/congregations and encourage communication and sharing of ideas through Clarkston Churches Together; (ii) Provide after Sunday morning worship fellowship through providing tea, coffee and a chat on a more regular basis, moving to make this a weekly occurrence; (iii) Bolster and extend the work of our youth organisations by the provision of financial support, and also by inviting the involvement of those who lead Sunday School, Guides, Brownies, and Drama etc. to embrace wider leadership roles within the Church in order to advise, and help to implement this aim; (iv) Lead community participation in the Clean up Scotland Litter Pick throughout the village of Busby; evolve our commitment to more fully embrace our membership of Eco-Congregation Scotland; (v) Pilot work with children in Busby Primary School to lay the foundation for their involvement with Ekwendeni when they transition to High School which, just as four local Churches here including Busby, are linked with one of the churches there, is twinned with one of the schools; and (vi) Undertake a review of our buildings and carry out a feasibility study of their use in the context of a united congregation of Busby and Greenbank Parish Churches. Our constitution encourages involvement of the congregation and our friends in the wider community to contribute to the life of the Church and I would encourage you to get involved. A warm welcome awaits you in Busby.

Announcements

CHRISTENINGS

Sunday 20 August - Hugh Edward Brown (24 March 2017)
Sunday 27 August - Harry George Murray Anderson (26 August 2016)
Sunday 3 September - Scarlett Rose Dickson (14 June 2017)

WEDDINGS

Saturday 2 September - Emily Pringle x Douglas Black
Saturday 14 October - Dawn Adamson x Russell Dick

BEREAVEMENTS

August
October
John Macgregor, East Kilbride Road
Nettie Hall, Bonnyton House
May McClelland, Craighill Drive

Carlynn Mackinven

What a fantastic start we have had at Busby Brownies, we have been working hard together since September and we are astounded at the rate of which we have grown! We now have a wonderful 16 brownies who join us on a Monday.

This week was a particularly exciting week for us as we all made our 'brownie promise' at our promise ceremony (yes us new leaders too)!! The girls did fantastically, and we are all so proud of how hard they all worked on making their promise ponds and of course learning their promise for the big night.



We have really hit the ground running and we are all having such a great time in our new leaders' roles at the brownies.

New Members

We are delighted to welcome new members, Mrs Janice Wallace of Woodyett Park and Alan Gray of Newford Grove.

All Are Welcome - Every Week

Susan Amour

I was asked to give a short talk at the elder-led service in October and was reminded that as the Sunday school were on holiday, there would be no children in church. As I was preparing my talk, I was reflecting on how sad it is that no children, young people or parents of children seem to come to church other than when Sunday school is on. I decided to bring that into my talk.

I started by asking: Why is it expected in our church that no children will be in church when there is no Sunday school? How did this happen? Why did it happen? Do we want to change this? Speaking for myself, I know that I do.

Looking at the calendar for 2018, I counted that I expect Sunday school to meet on 31 of the 52 available Sundays. Do we want to do anything about it? Feedback suggests that, yes, we do. This I find very encouraging.

I would like to see parents coming to church, with or without their children, when Sunday school is not on. It would be great to see Sunday school teachers coming to church for a full service when Sunday school is not on. It would also be great to see young people coming to church on their own.

I believe that we should look at how we engage with parents of young children to make coming to church on a Sunday morning a positive experience for them.

I also spoke about our need to engage with people who are not coming to church on a regular basis. Iain Murray, who led the service and delivered the sermon, also pointed out that he is amongst the youngest in the congregation some weeks – and he is a Grandpa!

My message to everyone in the parish is this:

Please consider coming to church on a Sunday morning – I enjoy it – Maybe you would too!



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