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**ST NINIANS OLD PARISH CHURCH  
STIRLING**



**PARISHIONER  
APRIL and MAY 2018**

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## **MINISTER**

Rev. Gary J McIntyre, B.D., Dip.Min.

7 Randolph Road, Stirling, FK8 2AJ

Tel: 01786 474421

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## **SESSION CLERK**

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## **DEPUTE SESSION CLERK**

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## **CHURCH OFFICER**

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## **CHURCH ORGANIST**

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Dollar

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Deadline for June/July Parishioner – Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2018

## FROM THE MANSE

Dear Friends,

As we journey on from Easter with the wonderful words 'He is risen' still ringing in our ears, I would like to share with you an idea that I have!

My idea is based on a Stewardship Programme called 'Giving for Growth'. It is promoted by the Church of Scotland and can be adapted to suit the local situation.

In essence 'Giving for Growth' is about raising awareness of what the Church does and the hope is that through this programme more people will become actively interested and involved in the Church in order that its work can not only continue but flourish.

In our context, I envisage an event or a number of events in the Parish Halls and Church to which people would be invited. We would have, among other things, posters and display boards giving people a flavour of where the money that is given to the Church goes, and background information on the charities and other good causes that we support throughout the year. There would be the ever-welcome cup of tea or coffee and an opportunity to engage in conversation.

These are challenging times for the Church in Scotland and for our own Church. There is no room to be complacent or to put off to another day the task of seeking to recruit people to become co-workers with us in sharing the Gospel through the worship, fellowship, mission and service of the Church.

At Easter I spoke about the transforming work that God can do – He can change situations in the most amazing ways but here is the rub – He needs us to work with him in order for that to happen!

I Believe 'Giving for Growth' provides us with a programme that could be a catalyst for so many good things in the life of our congregation. However, I need people to join me to plan and prepare for such an event or series of events. If you think you can help or want to find out more, please speak to me. I will be delighted to hear from you!

'Giving for Growth' is an opportunity for our congregation to Celebrate Christian Giving in a meaningful and enjoyable way. Let us grasp the opportunity now and make it happen!

Every blessing

Your friend and minister,

Gary J. McIntyre

  
Gary J McIntyre

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## **SERVICES IN APRIL AND MAY**

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April**

7.30a.m. Easter Morning Sunrise Service on the Castle Esplanade  
10.30a.m. Easter Day Family Service

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April**

10.30a.m. Morning Service

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April**

10.30a.m. Morning Service Rev Jim Landels  
Crèche and Sunday Club  
Fellowship Tea

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

10.30a.m. Morning Service with Crèche and Sunday Club  
Sacrament of Baptism

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April**

10.30a.m. Morning Service with Crèche and Sunday Club

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

10.30a.m. Morning Service with Crèche and Sunday Club

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May**

10.30a.m. Morning Service with Crèche and Sunday Club

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May**

10.30a.m. Morning Service with Crèche and Sunday Club  
Rev. Gordon Mathew

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May**

10.30a.m. Morning Service with Crèche and Sunday Club  
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**MEETINGS IN APRIL AND MAY**

**THE BIBLE STUDY GROUP**

The Bible Study Group will meet in the Upper Room of the Church on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April and Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm. This session we are reading 'Mere Christianity' by CS Lewis. You are welcome to come and join us.

**JOINT CHURCH FRIENDSHIP LUNCHESES**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April and Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May. 12 – 1.30pm in St Columba's Church Hall, Park Terrace, Stirling.

**HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

The Hall Management Committee will meet in the Parish Halls on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 12.30p.m.

## **THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

The General Assembly will meet in Edinburgh from 19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> May. The Moderator designate is the Rev Susan Brown, Minister of Dornoch Cathedral. Mrs Brown will take up the role of Moderator 50 years after the first woman was ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament. The Lord High Commissioner to this year's General Assembly will be the Duke of Buccleuch. The Lord High Commissioner is the Queen's representative to the General Assembly.

The Assembly comprises around 850 commissioners who are ministers, elders and members of the deaconate. It meets at the same time in May each year for a week in the Assembly Hall on the Mound. The first General Assembly was held in 1560, which was the year of the Scottish Reformation and marked the beginning of the Church of Scotland as we know it.

Mr McIntyre and Mrs Margaret Sibbald, Session Clerk will be commissioners to this year's General Assembly.

The Rev Gordon Mathew, a retired Minister who lives in Stirling, will conduct the Service on Assembly Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> May.

## **EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB**

This will be held in the Parish Halls and will run from 10am – 12.30pm on the mornings of Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April.

## **SOCIAL AFTERNOON**

The next Social Afternoon will take place on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> May when we can enjoy fellowship over a cup of tea or coffee and a teabake. Once again we will be extending a special invitation to the congregation of the Church of the Holy Spirit, the North Church and the United Free Church but anyone who would like to come along will be most welcome.

## **SOCIAL AND FUND RAISING COMMITTEE**

### **CRAFT CLASSES**

There will be a Craft Class starting on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> April from 7.00pm. The class will be held fortnightly in the middle room of the church hall. Some of the ladies are starting off knitting hats, scarves and mitts for children, for the Blythswood Boxes. We noted that there was a shortage of these items last year.

If anyone has any other project that they would like us to help with, please let us know. If anyone wishes to do sewing or other knitting please come along and join us. It is very informal and we usually have tea, coffee and biscuits.

### **SOUP AND SANDWICH LUNCHES**

There will be an additional Soup and Sandwich Lunch on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2018. The proceeds from this lunch will be in aid of the La Romana Hospital in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic and the Orphanage affiliated to the hospital. Megan, who has often helped with the lunches and another two girls from Stirling High are going out to do voluntary work in the hospital at the end of June. They hope to raise some money to help the hospital and the orphanage.

They would like to thank the Rev Gary McIntyre for allowing them to hold the lunch in the Church Hall.

There will be the usual lunches held on the following Saturdays – 6<sup>th</sup> October, 3<sup>rd</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

### **FILM SHOWS**

There will be a film show for children on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> June at 2pm in the Church Hall. This will be in conjunction with St Columba's Church. The film to be shown will be decided at a later date.

We also hope to have a film show for adults in February 2019. The exact date and film to be decided later.

### **BARBECUE**

The Annual Barbecue will be held in the Church Manse on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> July at 3.00pm. Tickets will be on sale during the month of June.

## **ST NINIANS AUTUMN SHOW**

We hope to hold a show which is open to the entire community in the Church Hall on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> September at 2.00pm

We would like to have entries for the following categories:

- Flowers
- Vegetables
- Preserves (Jam, Marmalade, Chutney etc.)
- Baking (Fruit Loaf, Victoria Sponge etc.)
- Knitted Garments
- Sewing
- Photography

There will be an independent judge to decide the winner of each category. There will also be a plant sale. Tea, coffee etc. will be served. There will be more information regarding the show available at a later date.

If anyone has any other suggestions that they would like the Social and Fund Raising Committee to consider or would like to help please contact one of the Committee.

The following are members of the Committee.

Christine Fernie. Alison Newman, Helen Paterson, Margaret Sibbald, Freda Smart, Mary Jenkins and Dorothy Walker.

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## **CHURCH LIBRARY**

Thank you to all who donated books. We still require books for children of all ages. We are, at present, cataloguing the books we have received.

The Library consists of religious and a general section of crime, travel, biography, children's and general interest books. We are also starting a DVD section. Volunteers are required to assist us.

For further information contact:

Freda Smart - 01786 447352 [fredasmart@hotmail.com](mailto:fredasmart@hotmail.com)

Bill Anderson - 01786 472756 [bill.anderson1@virgin.net](mailto:bill.anderson1@virgin.net)



## THE BOYS' BRIGADE

We are grateful to Sgt Shaun Craig for submitting this article.

It's hard to believe that 11 years has passed and that I still get the same enjoyment from the Boys' Brigade as I did the day I started around my 6<sup>th</sup> birthday. I was excited about my new red jumper and the cool badge sewn into it. Wet Friday nights in the dark winter meant I could meet friends in a safe and nurturing environment as well as engaging in the Christian teaching to positively influence my life. I can remember feeling very proud of telling everyone I met that I was an anchor boy, after waiting what felt a lifetime to be "big enough" to attend. Anchor boys was a whole lot of fun through play and interaction. Looking back, the patience shown to me by the leaders was incredible as they tried their best to "promote habits of obedience, reverence, discipline and self respect" in a wild child. It wasn't long before I was standing at the closing display with the rest of my anchor boy friends having achieved my first bronze award and medals. Being presented with my awards within the Albert Hall that year made me feel extra special at that age.

Before long, it was time to be fitted for my blue jumper as part of the Junior Section. This is where I realised I had two left feet – trying my best to score goals for our section against other BB companies.

Nevertheless, I was still made to feel a great part of the football team. Surprising my parents, I still eagerly wanted to go to the Boys' Brigade on the Friday evenings as I had changed my mind about so many activities at that age. Learning new skills of first aid was a close second favourite for me, with camp being top! Camp was a fab experience – fire building and playing pranks on the officers have provided me with good memories. Not to forget the cooking ladies who loved handing out seconds of soup, main course and pudding. This is where I started to develop my time management skills, always first in the queue for meal times, as I worked harder to get up and organised for inspection which proved tricky for me as my friends aimed for full marks, I found it hard enough to get up on time and look awake. Again, at the closing display, my parents and I remember proud moments of taking away awards for football, badminton and first aid. Not surprisingly, I did not get the best presented uniform awards in any section.

It was finally time for me to enter the Company Section, I can remember thinking back "where has the time went". The words of President Badge and Queen's Badge sounded really important and I was going to be working towards achieving these. I wasn't sure I could. However, through the support of the officers (goodness knows how they survived encouraging me), I was achieving 5 and 11 a side football awards, badminton and initial promotion to Lance Corporal. The following year, again, I was part of the 5 a side football championship side, national finalist and awarded for table tennis, badminton, Masterteam quiz, bowling runner up and promotion to Sergeant. I can particularly remember being supported by the officers at the football this year and continually having to be reminded from the side lines that "hand balls" weren't allowed in football as I was trying to combine basketball and football on the pitch.

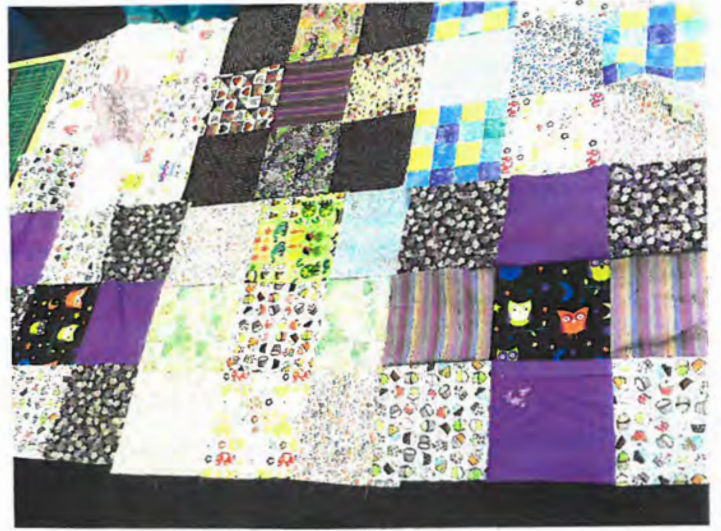
Now, I cannot believe that I am working towards my Queen's Badge, the highest award in the Boys' Brigade, and I can say, it's been hard but worth it. I have found it challenging with trying to keep up with school work, sporting and Queen's Badge. But, an achievement like this was going to require my commitment. To achieve this, I have to hold a president's badge, attend a Queen's Badge candidate's meeting, participate in skills based training, take responsibility within the BB/Church, provide voluntary service, develop interests and complete a residential completion course. Although I have found this tough, the healthy balance of work and play at the Boys' Brigade has certainly helped where we were able to enjoy laser tag and bubble football. Currently I am volunteering with sports leadership, where I have had a growth in confidence whilst speaking, learned how to coach children of varied abilities and learned new teaching skills. Taking responsibility within the church, I have attended busy church services and have read from the lectern. Physically, I continue to grow in the sport of basketball, as well as successfully learning how to drive. Next for me is attending the residential completion camp in the next few weeks and trying to tidy up my QB book to show evidence of my work to prove I am worthy of this great award and hope to be standing proud on May 11<sup>th</sup> to receive it.

Sgt. Shaun Craig

The Boys' Brigade end of session display and presentation of awards will take place in the Parish Halls on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May at 7.15pm.

## PATCHES 4 PEACE ECO CRAFT

Thank you to all the donors of fabric to the Patches 4 Peace program. The sewing group is going well. We have made bags, curtains, mended clothes and now we are working on two quilts for Starter Packs.



As we sew, we have great conversations and find ways to share together our stories, our beliefs and our cultural heritage.

Janet Foggie, Pioneer Minister  
Church of Scotland Chaplain  
to the University of Stirling



## CHRISTIAN AID

Christian Aid tries to tackle the root causes of the dire poverty which exists in some parts of the world and to help in practical ways to end it. It also strives to promote social justice and to provide immediate support for people when disasters happen.

Some churches and organisations are holding a Big Brekkie as their way of raising funds for Christian Aid but St Ninians Old has decided to have a Soup and Sandwich Lunch. The Lunch will take place on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> May from 12 to 1.30pm.

It would greatly enhance the amount of money we can give to the work of Christian Aid if those attending the lunch and are taxpayers put their contribution in a Christian Aid envelope and fill in their details. Those who are not attending the lunch and want to contribute can put their contribution in a Christian Aid envelope. These will be available in the church on Sundays 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> May and should be placed in the plate no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> May. It is hoped that St Ninians will be as generous in its support of Christian Aid as it has been in the past.

## **START UP STIRLING**

### **UPDATE FOR ST NINIANS OLD PARISH CHURCH – MARCH 2018**

#### **Development of Rural Services**

Demand for support in rural Stirlingshire has increased significantly. We launched our support services in Callander in December 2017. The demand for this has already surpassed our expectations.

Equally the need for crisis food support has increased so we are now running 4 rural delivery runs a week (from 2).

#### **Tesco Blue Coins**

**HAVE YOU POPPED A BLUE COIN IN THE BOX FOR US?** We are shortlisted to the blue coins vote in TESCO STIRLING and BRIDGE OF ALLAN for March and April.

We would greatly appreciate your votes for Start Up Stirling when you are shopping in either store.

Money raised will go to purchasing the items we need for Starter Packs that go to people starting new tenancies following homelessness.

#### **Lent Appeal**

Our appeal for Lent is based on the items that we are running very low on:

- Tinned meat – ham, corned beef, pork, chilli, stew etc
- Jars of cooking sauce – pasta, curry, chilli, sweet n sour etc
- UHT milk
- Tinned tomatoes

Donations of these items would be much appreciated.

#### **Tonne of Money**

We are still collecting coins to raise a tonne weight of money. If you have any loose change or tubs/jars/bags of coins that you can donate, we would love to receive them.

As always, huge thanks for your support. Laura

## START UP STIRLING SC10

### Minutes of Annual General Meeting 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017

In attendance: Colin Smith (Chair), Robert Stewart, Hazel Martin, Lesley Christie, Janet Baker, Gill Mcilwaine, Kay Fairgrieve, Robert Chalmers, John McRitchie, Nick Reed, Gillian Hall, Mary Kane, Elaine Cuthill, Anthony Birch, Mary Birch, Jim Roberts, Margaret Anne Ewart, Penny Goddard, Moira Rennie, Les Wallace, Jim Gallagher, Arthur Walls, Helen Thomson, Fiona Kettlewood, Janet Craig, Margaret Boland, Christine Harper, Louise Maxwell, Dominic Farrugia, Laura Kearney, Lynne Reed, Janet Taylor, Kath Arton, Christine Gannon and Linda Sterry.

1. CS welcomed members, non members and staff to the AGM.

CS reflected on the past year and acknowledged/advised:

- That there is still much to do against a backdrop of increased homelessness and rough sleeping, continued austerity and the roll of universal credit in Stirling, all of which will impact on the charity and the services it provides.
- That during the year the team have engaged with politicians and councillors from all parties to keep them advised of the situation in their community.
- The charity has grown in reputation and is often sought out to give views to press and radio.

CS thanked all staff – volunteers, board and partners for their support and hard work throughout the year.

2. Apologies were received from Hamish Wishart, Alison Adam, Jeanette Allan, Annette Oliver, Elizabeth O'Rourke, Tom Palmer, Isobel MacDonald, Fiona Ferguson and Geoffrey Seaman.
3. No matters were arising from the minutes of 2016 AGM.
4. Robert Stewart, Jay Brownlee and Colin Smith all retired as trustees and office bearers and were re-elected as Treasurer, Secretary and Convener respectively.

5. The financial accounts for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 were presented for consideration, RS advised that the charity had total receipts in the year £187,880 (2016 - £241.083). There was a surplus for the year of £13,391 after deducting cost of charitable activities of £174,588 (2015 – surplus £54,030, cost of charitable activities £187.052). The total reserves of the charity at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 stood at £138.098.

A discussion followed around sustainability and it was acknowledged that with a “funded” financial model we will continually be focussed on raising funds through grants and trusts whilst keeping a close eye on costs.

6. AOCB: AW mentioned the recent tragic death of Diane Beckett from Scottish Churches Housing Action and the meeting acknowledged her considerable help when Start Up originally commenced.

## **TUESDAY GROUP**

Another successful session concluded on 20<sup>th</sup> March with the Annual General Meeting, held in the King Robert Hotel.

The evening started with a small amount of business such as reports from the President, Miranda Miller, and the Treasurer, Dorothy Walker, and chaired bravely by the only man in the room, Rev Gary McIntyre. The ladies attending were asked to give approval to suggestions for donations and for possible changes to meeting times. The committee will further discuss the latter.

We also joined together to thank two retiring members of the committee, Christine Fernie and Freda Smart, for their hard work over the last two sessions. We are fortunate that two members volunteered to take their places, namely Kathleen Whelan and Ona Gomley, so the committee is once again at full strength.

Business over, we all very much enjoyed a two-course meal followed by tea and coffee, and a time of fellowship, as we look back on the 2017-18 session, and look forward to the Autumn and a new Tuesday Group programme. If you have any suggestions for speakers or entertainment please speak to one of the committee. Enjoy the summer break.



# Stirling Members' Centre

supporting the National Trust for Scotland

(Charity Number SC 025499)

Sandy and Margaret Moreland, Joint Secretaries

Tel: 01259 761700

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

## **SUMMER PROGRAMME 2018**

*All outings start from Forthside Car Park near Gabe's Diner  
(Timings are approximate)*

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018 Depart 8.45am Return 5.00pm**  
*Scotland's Secret Bunker (Organiser Kate Luke)*

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018 Depart 1.20pm Return 4.40pm**  
*Kilsyth Gardens (Organiser Donald Way)*

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018 Depart 1.10pm Return 4.40pm**  
*Queensferry Centre & Crossing (Organiser Donald Way)*

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2018 Depart 9.00am Return 6.00pm**  
*Bowhill House and Gardens (Organiser Bob McKean)*

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018 - Depart 10.15am Return 6.30pm**  
*Pitlochry Theatre - "Cabaret" (Organisers Sandy & Margaret Moreland)*

## ARTICLE IN LIFE & WORK BY THE VERY REVEREND ALBERT BOGIE

In the March issue of Life and Work, the monthly magazine of The Church of Scotland, there is an excellent thought provoking article by The Very Reverend Albert Bogie, former moderator 2012/2013

I have extracted a few paragraphs from the article which I think could be of some interest to the congregation of our church here in St Ninians Old.

After reading the extracts, if anyone who doesn't subscribe to Life and Work would like to read the whole article please get in touch with me and I will provide a full copy.

### Extract - Entitled "That Itchy Feeling"

Recently, I rediscovered the country singer Nancy Griffith. There's something about her songs that goes to the heart of the human condition, speaking into the injustices in the world.

"I was a lot like you  
we share a dream I couldn't make come true  
I was a child who wrote my name  
across a frosted window pane.  
And there are jobs that I might hold  
if they'd just let me through the door.  
Without a shower and new clothes  
that I can ill afford"

I can't quite put my finger on it, but it seems to me that there is often at the heart of a great song, or a compelling piece of artwork, something that can only be described as a longing and a yearning, a striving to feel, to describe or even, dare I say it, scratch an itch – that goes beyond description. It's as though there is a blueprint somewhere within us that speaks to us about fairness and justice and how things should really be.

(Several paragraphs are now missed out in the extract)



Developing and nurturing our prayer life is surely the course of meaningful discipleship. It is an attempt to address the restlessness. There is much to be gained by spending time in prayer. It is a reconnecting of ourselves to Eden, to the Father, to Creation, to each other.

Over the years I have found the following routine helpful in my prayer life.

Take a moment to be still, to find a quiet spot to review the day. Take time to reflect on something for which you are thankful. Take time to confess something for which you are sorry. Resolve how you might change the future.

Review tomorrow with all its opportunities.

Ask God to open your eyes spiritually to recognise the 'thin places' in your own experience where heaven is touching earth.

Who knows it may lead you to stop and speak to the person sitting on the street corner, and for you that will be the 'thin place', the place of encounter with Jesus. Or you might be drawn to listen to Nancy. Either way, like me, you'll never quite put your finger on the itch. It always remains to remind us of our true home and our longing to return.

Arthur Walls (01786 446899)

**MISSION STATEMENT  
FOR ST NINIANS OLD PARISH CHURCH**

We are a community of people who have found joy and peace through faith and fellowship in Jesus Christ. We are committed to sharing with others the Good News of God's love and care for all and to actively participate in the wider work of the Church

For further information on Services and Activities please have a look at our Website [www.stniniansold.org.uk](http://www.stniniansold.org.uk)

## **Office Bearers & Other Contact Numbers**

### **Treasurer**

Mr Michael Adam, 8 Glebe Crescent, Stirling 01786 473506

### **Property and Grounds**

Mr Tom Pollock, 109 Grampian Road, Stirling 01786 478710

### **Parishioner**

Mrs Myra Alexander, 36 Barbour Avenue, Stirling 01786 812202

### **Gift Aid Convener**

Mrs Christine Fernie, 7 Dundas Road, Stirling 01786 474830

### **Roll Keeper & Freewill Offering Convener**

Mrs Alison Newman, 32 Wishart Drive, Stirling 01786 814984

### **Communion Convener**

Mr James Rintoul, 3 Williamfield Avenue, Stirling 01786 461812

### **Eco Congregation Group**

Mr Tom Pollock, 109 Grampian Road, Stirling 01786 478710

### **Elders' District Review Committee Convener**

Maire Blackhall, 62 Home Farm Road, Cambusbarron 01786 475141

### **Life & Work & Church & Community Convener**

Mrs Marion Jackson, Birkdale, Torbrex Village, Stirling 01786 474878

### **Tuesday Group**

Mrs Miranda Miller, 74 Kenningknowes Road, Stirling 01786 465836

### **Boys' Brigade**

Mr Andrew MacDonald, 10 Carron Place, Stirling 07848040955

### **Finance Committee Convener**

Mr Jim MacDonald, 4 Randolph Terrace, Stirling 01786 474191

### **Safeguarding Co-ordinator**

Mrs Pamela Thomson, 55 Cruckburn Wynd, Stirling 01786 479028

### **Hall Management Committee Convener**

Mr Bill Anderson, 5 Melfort Drive, Stirling 01786 472756

### **Hall Bookings Convener**

Mrs Dorothy Walker, 12 Quarryknowe, Bannockburn 01786 814813

### **Fellowship Teas Conveners**

Mrs Heather Scougall, 87 Polmaise Avenue, Stirling 01786 814957

Mrs Janette Peterson, 116 Bannockburn Road, Stirling 01786 814657

### **Church and Community Committee Convener**

Mrs Mary Donald, 12 Dumyat Road, Stirling 01786 474771

### **Social and Fundraising Convener**

Mrs Dorothy Walker, 12 Quarryknowe, Bannockburn 01786 814813

### **Transport Co-ordinator**

Mrs Elaine Mackay, 31 Laburnum Grove, Stirling 01786 475596

### **Youth Committee Convener**

Mrs Avril Robertson, 9 Melfort Drive, Stirling 01786 474634

### **Publicity Committee Convener**

Mr Peter Kale, 54 Cruckburn Wynd, Stirling 01786 586927