

# Contact

*Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you*

*The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be  
celebrated on*

*Sunday 6th June 2021*

*At 10.30am*

*This cup is the new covenant in my Blood*

*This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me*

**EK South Parish Church**

**June 2021**

## **Mission Statement**

By the grace of God,  
In the spirit of Christ,  
We are a people called by God  
To live and act by His Word,  
And spread the Good News  
In our community and beyond.



## **Vision Statement**

“East Kilbride South Parish is an inclusive church, it welcomes everyone, giving opportunity for their faith to be nurtured.

It builds good relationships within the whole church family and reaches out to share our life of faith in our community.

It is able to do this, in an environment where God is central, through good leadership, sharing faith together and valuing everyone.”

## From the Manse

This past year has been so difficult. Many of us are feeling the effects of all that we have lost, all that we have missed. It has been a year of uncertainties. We have listened to political leaders and medical experts give us so much information, we've heard statistics, kept up to date with the regulations and restrictions - hoped and prayed that we will move through the different levels in the right direction. Many of us have lost loved ones during this time, some to the virus itself. We all have our own story as well as our shared story of this pandemic.

We have come from the season of Easter and this coming Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, we'll celebrate Pentecost, remembering the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on those first witnesses of the resurrection. They too had come through a time of uncertainty; they'd witnessed the death of Jesus and experienced the darkness and pain of loss. But Jesus rose from the dead bringing them hope and with that hope came his command to take His good news to the whole world. And so, they proclaimed, as He had done, the time of God's favour, and they spoke and lived the values of God's upside down Kingdom. (Read Matthew 5) By their words and by how they lived they did turn the world upside down (Acts 17:6).

They did so, not in their own strength but in the power of the Holy Spirit. Those who had been hiding for fear of the Jews became those who openly proclaimed the Good News of Jesus, for the Spirit of God dwelt in them empowering them, giving them courage.

The Spirit was poured out on that day of Pentecost - the same Holy Spirit is still active in the Church today. As we take time to pray, as we reflect on the scriptures, we do so to hear God's Spirit speak to us, to lead us and guide us into His future, where His purpose for us as a congregation is good. It may be a future that is very different from the past, for God is the God of new things. New things that remind us of his care for us, new things that lead us towards his good purpose for the whole of creation.

**Isaiah 43** “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

I believe God is doing a new thing with us. Now, I know it is hard to let go of our how things used to be. We are not people who are to be stuck in the past, longing for the way things used to be. We are to be people who trust that God has a future for us. Romans chapter 8 is a great chapter to read for encouragement.

Here is Eugene Petersen’s paraphrase of Romans 8 : 31 - 39

So, what do you think? With God on our side like this, how can we lose? If God didn’t hesitate to put everything on the line for us, embracing our condition and exposing himself to the worst by sending his own Son, is there anything else he wouldn’t gladly and freely do for us? And who would dare tangle with God by messing with one of God’s chosen? Who would dare even to point a finger? The One who died for us—who was raised to life for us! - is in the presence of God at this very moment sticking up for us. Do you think anyone is going to be able to drive a wedge between us and Christ’s love for us? There is no way! Not trouble, not hard times, not hatred, not hunger, not homelessness, not bullying threats, not backstabbing, not even the worst sins listed in Scripture.

Paul reminds the Christians in Rome of how committed God is to his people. He didn’t spare his own son, but gave him up for us all, how will he not graciously, along with Him, give us all good things. There are countless places in scripture where we are reminded of the mystery of how God works

May God grant us the wisdom to trust His love, that we may go into the future encouraged and willing to love and serve Him and to love and serve our community.

Terry

## Reflection

Well how time flies when you're having fun; it seems no time since I wrote my first reflection introducing myself to you all and now 8 months on, I sadly write some farewell thoughts.

What can I say? A **great big** thank you one and all and even that seems an inadequate expression. First of all, thank you very much for welcoming me into your Church family – I really do feel like your sister, for some maybe even your mother and others perhaps your daughter but there is definitely a sense of family and I really appreciate it. Secondly thank you very much for accepting me as I am and for taking part in anything I have asked of you. On each occasion you have willingly and enthusiastically responded and for that I am very grateful. Thirdly thank you for including me in all you do – whether in worship services, the bible study, the board and session meetings and for allowing me the privilege of getting to know some of you better in pastoral visits, zoom and telephone calls, or WhatsApp chats.

Writing this I am reminded of the hymns 'The Church is wherever God's people are praising'. You, the congregation of EK South Parish Church are indeed God's people and I am so thankful that you are praising, are sharing the Gospel, are accepting, are forgiving and are loving one another in Jesus' name. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time on placement with you; we've worshipped together in person and on zoom, we've prayed together, studied the bible, enjoyed an afternoon tea quiz, I've even learned to play lawn bowls at the Murray Bowling Club. Many friendships have been made and all during these challenging Covid times with its restrictions.

As I move on in my studies and into my next placement, I take with me much learning and very many fond memories of my time here. I would be delighted to return and see you all again especially as restrictions ease and more face to face contact is possible. Hugs even! Anyone who wishes is welcome to keep in touch - my email is [hshaw@thechurchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:hshaw@thechurchofscotland.org.uk).

To close I share with you a little story which I hope is an encouragement.

A daughter was telling her Mum about everything going wrong. She'd failed an exam, her boyfriend had dumped her and her best friend was moving away. Meanwhile the Mum was baking a cake and asked her daughter if she would like something to eat.

The daughter smiles and says "yes, absolutely, I love your cake".

"Here have some cooking oil" her mum offers. "Yuck" says the daughter.

"How about a couple of raw eggs?" "Gross Mum!"

"Would you like some flour then? Or maybe some baking soda?"

"Mum, these are all yucky!"

To which the Mum replies, "Yes all those things seem bad all by themselves but when they are put together in the right way, they make a wonderfully delicious cake!"

God works in the same way. Many times, we wonder why God lets us go through hard times but we can trust God, we can know that whatever is His plans for us they will all become something wonderful.

**Romans 8:28 -And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.**

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO IN THE NAME OF JESUS**

Yours in Christ,  
Hazel Shaw

## Gift Day

In order to raise funds for vital repair work to the toilets roof etc. there will be a gift day on **Sunday 1 August 2021**. Place cash or cheque payable to 'South Parish Church' in an envelope marked 'Gift Day' - if you're a tax payer, also indicate your freewill offering number and give it to Archie Gardner. Alternatively you can transfer funds directly to the bank account, using 'Gift Day' as the reference. —to obtain the sort code and account number contact Archie by email [archiegardner@sky.com](mailto:archiegardner@sky.com) or phone 01355 230739



## 2nd East Kilbride Boys' Brigade Company

Since the last church magazine came out in February, we are pleased to say we've been able to resume face-to-face BB activities. We were able to resume about 5 weeks ago, although initially everything had to be done outside, however with Level 2 restrictions now in place we now have the option to use the hall again if the weather is bad.

Since resuming face-to-face activities, it has been great to see all the boys again and find out how they've been getting on. Our Anchor Boys have been enjoying playing some of their favourite games as well as learning a couple of new games too. They have also been learning about the Lost Sheep and the story of Zacchaeus.

The Juniors have taken part in the International Team Games which is a worldwide BB Competition where teams of 6 take part in 6 different challenges together before submitting their results to see how they compare to other BB companies around the world. We will hopefully hear the results of this in the next few weeks.

Our Company Section have been doing various games and activities on a Friday night, and a number have enjoyed taking part in Saturday morning walks too in the local area. Over the first few weeks of this the boys who have attended all the walks have covered over 30 miles.

The Juniors and Company Section have also been offering support to the EK Community Litter Pickers, who have been encouraging people to try and tidy up East Kilbride and get rid of a lot of the litter that is in our community. Over the last couple of weeks, we've had groups out in the church grounds and down in to the park collecting any rubbish we see. To date we have managed to collect around 10 bags of rubbish.

We plan to continue running face-to-face activities until the end of June when we'll stop for our summer break, before hopefully resum-

ing activities again in August.

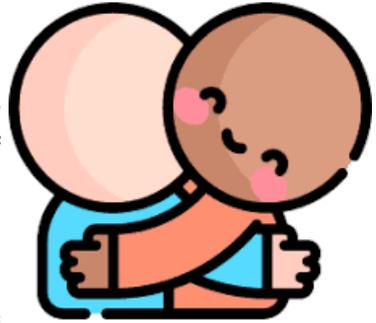
Thanks again to all who have supported us or shown an interest in what we have been getting up to, it is very much appreciated.

David



## This pandemic!

On a recent walk with his mum & dad, our youngest grandson declared that he wished this pandemic would end so as he could talk properly to grampa.



Many church members feel the same frustration at not being able to talk to each other at Sunday worship. The advantage for those of us attending via zoom is that we can talk to each other both before and after the service. Furthermore we are not speaking from behind a mask. Added to this, we can join in with the hymn singing. None of this can however compensate for the sense of calm on entering the sanctuary to worship; when hopefully we can choose to sit beside friends and family once more. Until that time, we have to be patient and give thanks for how much progress has been made to date.

Our hope and prayers must be for the vaccine to reach across the globe with equal share.

Wishing everyone more freedom and many blessings to enjoy a happy and healthy summer season.

Una Gracie



## PASTORAL CARE GROUP

Pastoral Care has looked very different during the past year or more. Although things are beginning to improve it has been difficult if, not impossible, to visit those we would normally pop in to see. Instead, our “caring” has been done by phone and by cards of encouragement where appropriate.

Terry has been able to make pastoral visits to those in need of one and this has been most welcome. Please continue to pray for all our church family, especially those who are becoming more frail and will possibly be unable to be with us on a Sunday even when it is safe to meet in larger numbers.

As there is no real news to pass on, Elizabeth, who received a box of cards with helpful scripture verses, from a very good friend, is sharing a few of these below which we hope you find encouraging.

***“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.” (Proverbs 3:5-6 NLT)***

***“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” (Isaiah 40:31 NIV)***

***“Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.” (Matthew 6:34 NIV)***

***“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.” (Psalm 40:1 NIV)***

***“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.” (Philippians 4:6-7 NIV)***

***“Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you” (1 Peter, 5:7, New Living Translation)***

*Elizabeth, Barrie, Jeanette, Jean, June and Alison*

## **By Gentle Powers**

It's been a year like no other with our lives being put on hold and plans made having to be abandoned. Things changed quite a bit for me after I suffered a mild stroke in February but I was thankful and humbled by the prayers and good wishes from the church family. I know too that Elizabeth, Lesley and David appreciated the messages and support at the time. We'd like to thank you all for your concern.

Fifty years ago I set off to spend a year as a foreign languages assistant in Schweinfurt, Motherwell and Wishaw's twin town in Germany. I made a number of friends during my year there and I'm still hopeful that I'll be able to pay a return visit later this year or in 2022 to mark the fifty years since I went there. One of my friends, Bernd, has kept in regular touch over the years and he visited East Kilbride with his wife and daughters about twenty years ago. The family also attended worship in the South Parish during their stay. Elizabeth and I were also happy to attend their younger daughter Christina's confirmation in Germany a year or so later. You can imagine how sad we were recently to get a text from their elder daughter Sonja that her mum, Ulrike, had suffered a brain haemorrhage and stroke and was in hospital in an induced coma. After two weeks in the coma Ulrike was able to regain consciousness. As I write this Ulrike hasn't been able to speak yet but is showing that she is aware of things, reacting to words and songs and showing some emotion when her grandchildren speak to her. Sonja told me about a favourite hymn that they had been singing to Ulrike. The hymn had been written by Dietrich Bonhoeffer and I'd like to share it with you. This hymn is frequently sung in Germany at the end of the year, but, as we've just come to the end of basically a year's lockdown, its words are still appropriate.

The protestant theologian, church leader, and resistance member Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote the inspiring and melancholic words as a prayer toward the end of his 2-year imprisonment by the Nazis. He sent it to his family as an encouragement and profession of faith in December of 1944, just eight weeks before he was executed (and four months before Nazi Germany's capitulation). Bonhoeffer's life, witness, and death gave the song special resonance at the turn of the year.

The past year has been filled with worry and anxiety, where people have felt burdened and frightened by their personal and political situation. We have been under siege by contagious viruses, the virus of ha-

tred and the Covid virus. The text of the hymn is comforting and allows us to walk into the future cradling hope. So whether you find yourself lonely or loved, harried or hopeful, anxious or assured, may the words of this hymn comfort you and may God's gentle powers embrace you.

If you would like to hear recording of the song you can find it on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-dWCPeH6BA8>. It's also available on a CD called "The Taste of Liberty" by Siegfried Fietz, who put the words to the music.

**By Gentle Powers**

*Surrounded by such true and gentle powers.  
So wondrously consoled and without fear,  
Thus will I spend with you these final hours  
And then together enter a new year.*

***By gentle powers lovingly surrounded,  
with patience we'll endure, let come what may.  
God is with us at night and in the morning  
and certainly on every future day.***

*The worries of the old year still torment us.  
We're troubled still by long and wicked days.  
Oh Lord, give our frightened souls the healing  
For which You've chastened us in many ways.*

*And though You offer us the cup so heavy.  
So painful, it's the most that we can stand.  
Not faltering, with thanks we will accept it  
And take it as a gift from your good hand.*

*And should it be Your will once more to grant us.  
To see the world and to enjoy the sun,  
Then we will all the past events remember  
And finally our life with you is one.*

Please reflect on the words and pray for Ulrike and her family as they go through this testing time.

Barrie Crawford



## 2nd East Kilbride Girls Brigade

Hello to everyone in the congregation – hope you are all well.

Since January we have continued with GB at home. The Brigaders have been meeting on Zoom and have studied “Women in Science” and have used Wisdom House material which was compiled by our National Chaplain. The Explorers and Juniors were sent packs to complete between January and Easter. Subjects covered were a National Bird watch, Chinese New Year, Lent, Baking activities and crafts.

In Holy Week the Easter story appeared on our Facebook page in a series of daily animations. We have also posted crafts and activities on our Facebook page for the girls to try at home. It has been encouraging that we have had messages from parents of new girls who wish to start GB when we are allowed to meet again face to face.

Our big news however, is that one of our Brigaders has completed her Brigader Brooch, the highest award in the Brigader section and the second highest award in GB. This usually takes 5 years to complete and we would like to congratulate Kimberley McKay on gaining this award. She will receive her brooch soon and hopefully, when allowed, there may be a presentation of this. Well done, Kimberley!

Eleanor



## Six Little Stories with lots of meanings

Once all the villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. **That is Faith.**

When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. **That is Trust.**

Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but we still set alarms to wake up. **That is Hope.**

We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. **That is Confidence.**

We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. **That is Love.**

On an old man's shirt was written a sentence: "I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience". **That is Attitude.**

*Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories. Remember: good friends are the rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace.*

Amelia

### New Church Website

Our new website should go live on  
Tuesday 15 June. The address will be  
[www.eastkilbridesouthparish.org.uk](http://www.eastkilbridesouthparish.org.uk)

So check it out and let us know what you think!

# Sunday School

As we once again approach summer, we can hopefully look forward to better days ahead. Although we have not seen the last of Covid-19, with the help of the vaccination programme and some restrictions still being in place, we are learning to live with it and we look forward at some time in the not too distant future to be able to meet again as a Sunday School.



At the moment, after yet another strange year, we have no real news to share about Sunday School activities, although it is good to see some of our children in church now and then on a Sunday and see how they have grown over the past year and a bit!! Andrew, particularly, loves to stand as close to me as he is allowed, to “measure” my height compared to his. He just loves to prove how tall he is and how small I am! To be fair, nearly everyone towers above me, although perhaps I just have the edge on Terry!!!

Having said all that, we do have something to celebrate among Sunday School staff. Alison Rush and her husband, Kevin, have just reached the milestone of 50 years of marriage and a Golden Wedding Anniversary is most definitely a reason to celebrate.

Alison has devoted many years to teaching in the Sunday School as well as working with the younger section of the Boys’ Brigade. We would like to pass on our congratulations to Alison and Kevin and wish them God’s blessing and many more happy years together!

Although we have not been meeting together on a weekly basis, please continue to pray for the Sunday School staff and children as you have always done.

I will finish with a verse from Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT) *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.”*

Wise words in deed and good advice for all of us!  
Elizabeth



It's been quite a while since I've had any news about the toddler group; I have attended a seminar on restarting toddler groups that was run by SPELL who are the organisation that support the pre-5 voluntary sector in South Lanarkshire. There are a lot of restrictions that make opening the toddler group unviable at the moment, even in level 1. However, we are hopeful that when we get to Level 0, things will be relaxed enough to allow us to do things like have snack time, singing and playing instruments and playing with soft toys. If this is the case, then we hope to restart after the Summer break.

We know that there are a lot of parents and grandparents desperate for there to be somewhere that they can take their youngsters to for a bit of socialisation (for the adults as well as the babies and toddlers) and we are very keen to be able to provide this for our community. We ask for, and are grateful for, your prayers that we will be able to do this.

Wendy



## Ways & Means

How I wish that the Ways & Means had some exciting news of activities for our church friends in the months to come. Sadly we can't meet to plan any events for a while yet. No doubt, like us, you are looking forward to some sunny days ahead when we are able to meet up with friends and family whenever possible.

God bless and keep well.

Rena

## The Kippen Vine

Once again, as so often during the last year, I enjoyed joining the South Parish Community for a recent Sunday worship. Terry's reading was from John and Hazel delivered a very imaginative presentation on vines and grapes— the theme for the service. It made me think about the story of another vine —one close to my home and heart —which I would love to share with you.

Kippen, where I live, is a very small village in Stirlingshire: an unlikely setting for a grapevine with a global reputation for its massive proportions! Nevertheless, in its heyday The Kippen Vine regularly produced around 2000 bunches of grapes and stretched across more than 300 feet – quite an achievement.

People came from far and wide to visit the vine: coach-loads of visitors were awestruck at the scale of the operation and, in true Scottish fashion, after their tour enjoyed tea and cakes, served by local youngsters. I have this first hand from my friend, Elma, who was one of the young people in the village grateful for the chance of a job so close to home during the school holidays!

The story starts in 1891 when Duncan Buchanan, a local man, bought cuttings from a grapevine in Clovenfords in the Borders and brought them to Kippen. He nurtured the grapevine so well that within 20 years it was producing 600 bunches a year overtaking London's much older Hampton Court vine. At its peak this number reached almost 3,250. By 1922 it was recorded as the world's largest vine. It had become a tourist attraction and put Kippen on the map.

Over the years the cultivation and care of the vine was taken on by other members of the Buchanan family, but the costs and increasing efforts required to maintain it, became overwhelming. Sadly and tragically, it was cut down in 1964 amid feelings of despair.

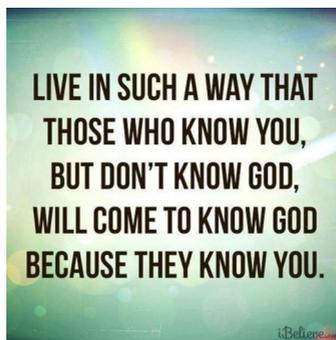
While the record-breaking vine itself is mostly a fading memory, offshoots continue to exist in gardens and greenhouses in the area. Fol-

lowing our own move to Kippen in the eighties, we bought a second-hand greenhouse from a member of the Buchanan family—it came with a vine grown from an offshoot of the original grapevine. We were thrilled although I will admit that we were slightly daunted by the responsibility of ensuring its survival. Fortunately, we have managed to keep it alive (with only a couple of wobbles!) and every year we enjoy a good harvest of grapes. A wreath, fashioned from prunings, adorns our front door at Christmas.

Happily, Conservationists have also taken steps to make sure that relatives of the vine will continue to exist for generations to come. Cuttings were taken from a plant saved from the Kippen vine some years ago and transported to Culzean Castle. In doing so the Kippen Grapevine story comes almost full circle: Duncan Buchanan, who brought the grapevine to Kippen, was a former top gardener at the castle.

Although the grapevine is no longer a feature of the village, tales of its glory live on in villagers' memories. Attempts have been made to guarantee that this important part of Kippen's history is not forgotten. There is an area of housing called "Old Vinery" built on the former site of the famous greenhouse, the local newsletter is called "The Grapevine" and to ensure that the younger generation do not forget, an image of the vine is incorporated into the school badge of Kippen Primary School.

Anne



# South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership Survey 2021

South Lanarkshire residents are being urged to share their views on the future delivery of public services within the area.

The call has come from the local Community Planning Partnership, which brings together public bodies, including the Council, to work together, and with local communities.

A key aim is to design and deliver better services that make a real difference to people's lives, and as part of this the partnership is looking to hear from local people about what they think is working well in the area, and what priorities for delivery in the future should be.

Views will be used to help shape the council and community partnership plans.

<https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=161728638338>

Councillor John Anderson

Chair of Community and Enterprise Resource

Email [j.anderson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:j.anderson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

Mobile No. 07825583901

## General Assembly 2021

Sometimes the work carried out and indeed the language used during this meeting of the highest court of Church of Scotland can seem beyond us mere church members. However, there are big changes proposed and indeed necessary for the Kirk and it might be advantageous to take some time to take a look.

[www.churchofscotland.org.uk/about-us/general-assembly/conveners-speeches](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/about-us/general-assembly/conveners-speeches) Coverage available on the Life and Work website [www.lifeandwork.org/features/features/view/554-general-assembly-2021](http://www.lifeandwork.org/features/features/view/554-general-assembly-2021)

50th  
Wedding anniversary

*Alison & Kevin Rush*

*Married in the South Parish Church*

*22<sup>nd</sup> May 1971*



*Congratulations*



## Church Information

Minister	Terry Taylor	7 Clamps Wood	
Email:	ttaylor@churchofscotland.org.uk	Mobile:	07590 265924
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Mag Editor	Wendy Kerr	wendyhkerr@hotmail.com	238453

## Congregational Activities

Sunday Worship service 10.30am

(In church building and on Zoom)

Wednesday 7.30pm Bible Study

(On Zoom)

Continue to check on our Facebook pages for details  
of organisation and group activities

Also from Tuesday 15 June on our new website

[www.eastkilbridesouthparish.org.uk](http://www.eastkilbridesouthparish.org.uk)

Baird Hill, The Murray, East Kilbride, G75 0EA  
[www.southparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.southparishchurch.co.uk)



Church of Scotland

Scottish Charity No 008332