FROM THE MINISTER’S DESK

We are people of a northern land and as such we associate Christmas with winter. Children yearn for snow, and cards are bought with robins perched by a church deep in snow drift. Whilst it is true that the Holy Land of the Nativity can experience harsh winters with snow falls we have perhaps blended this with a deep need for celebration in the midst of dark winter nights.

A 21st century problem with the forgoing is that winter may become a thing of the past. Jim Crumley, a wonderful, insightful Scottish nature writer whom I would highly recommend, has posited the thought that in the near future we will have only three seasons – winter gone, and instead a long blend of autumn into spring. Global climate change seems to be unfolding before our eyes and as average global temperatures increase we will be affected by the outcomes.

Well, as the Christ-child grew up to face the realities of adult life in all its complexities, we can grow up to face the potential solutions to 21st century global climate change. We can start with our own lifestyles by reduce our carbon footprint and needless consumpt ion of stuff. Further we can petition our politicians to work for action across continents and oceans that will give our planet a chance to flourish again.

A fashion last year for winter was to embrace the Nordic hygge – this year the equivalent is the Scottish coorie. This is short hand for big jumpers, warm fires and filling food. It sounds wonderful. But we all have to emerge from this – and if we take action now, our grandchildren may be able to emerge too from the coorie into a snow filled winter wonderland.

Rev Dugald Cameron

A NAME ON THE WAR MEMORIAL

The names listed on our war memorial of those who were killed in the First World War were read out prior to the silence on Remembrance Sunday. On the previous Thursday I had taken a photo on my mobile of the memorial and then proceeded to type out the names for reading out. The office phone rang – it was a relative of Donald Binnie – whose name seconds before I had typed. The family had been wondering if the names would be read. And so I was told something of him. He had lived just across the road from the church, around where Lidl is now. He had been a member here and had started his studies to become a minister. When he was shot they found his Bible inside his tunic.

On Remembrance Sunday, the children of the Sunday School laid a wreath at the memorial to mark 100 years since Armistice. Only later did I find out that Donald had taught in the Sunday School and that his family still have a letter of condolence sent from the Sunday School Treasurer remembering Donald.

Donald will be with God in the Communion of Saints. And his presence and importance in this life in this church has resonated down the decades.

Rev Dugald
ARGYLL PRESBYTERY PRAYER ROTA

In the month ahead, please pray for the following:

2nd December
Congregations of: Lochgilphead, Kilfinichen, Kilvickeon & Ross of Mull

9th December
Congregations of: Kilninian & Kilmore

16th December
Congregations of: Saddell & Carradale Lismore

23rd December
Congregations of: Skipness Muckairn

30th December
Congregations of: Southend Salen & Ulva

6th January 2019
Congregations of: South Knapdale Strathfillan Augusta Lamont Bequest Committee

13th January
Congregations of: Tarbert, Loch Fyne & Kilberry Tiree

20th January
Congregations of: Glassary, Kilmartin & Ford Tobermory

RETIRING OFFERINGS AT CHRISTINGLE AND ON CHRISTMAS EVE

The offerings from these four services will this year be given to local charity Hope Kitchen and to Christian Aid – the ecumenical expression of compassion of the churches of Scotland and the wider UK.

REV CHRIS FULCHER

It is with great sadness for Kilmore and Oban and yet all blessing for Chris that we have learnt that she is moving on to a new position in an Argyll Presbytery appointment. (Sunday 28th November is her last with us). Initially on secondment, Chris will be working in a Hub Ministries position covering much of Kintyre, Islay, Jura and Gigha. This will allow Chris to work from home and spending so much more time with her husband Steve. The move came rather quickly, and so we plan to say a proper goodbye on Sunday 27th January 2019. More info to come.

BAPTISM

Baptism of Sarah Sheila MacLeod and Campbell Neil MacLeod, twin babies of Kristeen and Sandy on Sunday 18th November 2018.

OBAN PARISH CHURCH ROOF

Work on re-roofing the Parish Church, which began in October, has been completed well ahead of schedule, despite the earlier bad weather and stoppage time to allow funerals. Buchanan Roofers tell us that some 9,000 Spanish slates and around 20,000+ nails were used!! You will notice the coloured ridge tiles – these are brand new.
Come and enjoy an afternoon of Christmas joy. Muckairn Ringers, the Church Choir, and Oban Gaelic Choir will provide the entertainment. Donations are welcome for Carr Gorm. For more information, contact Fumiko Miller.

**CHRISTMAS EVE – MONDAY 24th FAMILY SERVICE**

**19.00** Come to church on the most important evening of the year. Make an impression that lasts a life time.

**21.00** Kilmore Kirk This service is always a highlight of the year. Come along to this special country kirk worship and sing praise to God. Be a part of a tradition lasting hundreds of years.

**23.30** Find yourself in God’s house as the new born Christ is worshipped in this service full of carols and words of faith.

**CHRISTMAS DAY – TUESDAY 25th, 10.30am**

(worship will last 30 minutes)

_In the warmth of worship, we acknowledge Christ is with us._

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY:**

_Sunday 20th January 2019_

Our fourth annual united ecumenical service will be hosted by ourselves – at our normal 10.30am worship time. As in previous years we will be joined by the congregations of St. John’s Episcopal Cathedral and Oban Baptist Church and representatives of other denominations. The offering will go to Christian Aid. Please put this date in your new diaries!

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT KILMORE & OBAN

SUNDAY SCHOOL 1921

A picnic at Ganavan in 1921. Look at the fashions! Do you recognise anyone from your family? Thanks to Duncan Campbell of Longistan Road for passing on the photo.

CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE

Funerals

Nothing can separate us from the Love of God
Margaret Mitchell of Mossfield Avenue, Oban
Ian Rodgers of McCaig Road, Oban
Billy Gillespie of Dunmar Court, Oban
Netta O’Hara of McKelvie Road, Oban
John White of Columba Court, Oban
Bill Grant of Dalglish, Dunollie Road, Oban

Baptisms

And a child shall lead them
Sarah Sheila MacLeod and Campbell Neil MacLeod, daughter and son of Sandy and Kristeen.

EDITORIAL:
Ken MacColl

Our next edition will be available on Sunday 27th January 2019.

Copy and photographs should be at the Church Office or sent direct to the editor at kenmaccoll@btinternet.com by Monday 21st January 2019.

Photographs and short news items are always welcome.

Ken MacColl (01631) 566515 or kenmaccoll@btinternet.com

KEY:

CC – Church Centre
K – Kilmore Kirk
PC – Oban Parish Church