



JULY / AUGUST 2019
 CHURCH of SCOTLAND LOCAL PARISH NEWSLETTER
KILMORE & OBAN
Belonging, Believing, Blessing



WHAT'S ON

LATEST NEWS

SERVICE TIMES

FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK



To pray does not mean to withdraw. Nonetheless, you may withdraw to pray. By this I mean that you may need a space or a time when you are not besieged by demands or noise so as to sit and be still before God – to listen and to speak.

When you are blessed in having this space to pray for the world our concerns for it may become more felt and articulated. And therefore, your response more considered and passionate. So prayer is not withdrawal, rather it is engagement at a deeper level.

So what do we pray for in the current political climate? I have to think through this question whenever I formulate the weekly Prayers of Intercession for Sunday worship. You have to guard against your own political opinion coming through whilst being true to Christian ethical and Gospel values on peace and justice (sometimes contradictory ideals), action for our planet, concern

for the poor, the outcast and the refugee. We can be passionate about all these matters from a Christian perspective whilst recognising that individual Christians will have different ideas as to how these goals may be achieved.

Here quoted is The Universal Prayer for Peace take from an Iona Community Worship Book. I think we can all share the words of the prayer quite easily – putting it into action needs God's Holy Spirit to lead us. God's activity in what we think and do is the difference between mere sentimental reflection and meaningful prayer.

O God, lead us from death to life,
 from falsehood to truth.
 Lead us from despair to hope,
 from fear to trust.
 Lead us from hate to love,
 from war to peace.
 Let peace fill our hearts,
 our world, our universe. Amen.

Rev Dugald Cameron

BAPTISMS

Sunday 9th June 2019 was a special day at Oban Parish Church. The Minister the Rev. Dugald Cameron had the pleasant duty of baptising eight young people, the family of Stephanie and Robert Wynd in the presence of family and friends. In turn Kian, McKenzie, London, Freya, Kendall, Skylar, Dakota and Piper were given God's blessing and welcomed as members of the congregation. Robert explained that prior to coming to Oban he had been in the Services and away from home for long periods. He and Stephanie had just never got round to having the children baptised. Following a visit to Oban they both fell in love with the town and made the decision spend the rest of their lives here. And they became regular visitors at the Parish Church. The older children enjoyed the Sunday School where their bright and friendly personalities quickly made them new friends. So said Stephanie, it just seemed natural to have the children baptised.



Photo – Alex Clark

CHRISTIAN AID



A big thank you to all who collected for Christian Aid, either door to door or street collection. And of course, a huge thank you to all who contributed. The total Oban and Kilmore raised for this year's appeal week was £1,652.04. Our next focus on Christian Aid will be at Harvest – scheduled for Communion **Sunday 6th October**.

HOPE KITCHEN 1

Hope Kitchen was successful in an application to the Church of Scotland Go For It fund. They will be receiving £62,000 over three years. Hope Kitchen, along with the Green Shoots Garden have great plans for this new source of finance. Catriona and Lorraine from Hope Kitchen are really keen to communicate to Kilmore and Oban church what will be happening.



KERRERA WALK

Yes its on Saturday 13th July 2019. Meet at the Gallanach Ferry slipway at 10.30. Everyone welcome - see SIGN UP sheet in church Individuals responsible for own ferry fares. Children must be accompanied. Dogs okay on lead. Suggest carry packed lunch and plenty drinks. Sensible shoes, Carry warm and wet weather clothing (just in case)! We hope to be back at the Kerrera slipway for 4pm. For fuller information see SIGN UP sheet in church. Any queries - Alex Clark Tel 564784

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2019



COUNCIL OF ASSEMBLY / RADICAL ACTION PLAN

The centrepiece of the Council of Assembly's report is of course the Radical Action Plan for reform of the Church, as instructed by last year's General Assembly.

The first of sixteen tasks is the establishment of growth fund of £20 – 25m, to be spent from 2020 – 2026 on 'initiatives to develop mission through new ecclesial communities and church planting'. It is, says the report, 'about supporting the whole Church...to do the new things which we believe God is calling us to'.

The second task is wholesale reform of the regional structure, which is to see the present 45 presbyteries reduced to around 12 'units' (either united presbyteries or presbyteries closely co-operating) by 2025.

At local level, the plan envisages 'new forms of church structures', to include Presbytery Mission initiatives and Hub-Style ministries. This, it says, will

allow the church to keep a presence and exercise mission in communities even where numbers are very low, but releasing such congregations from the traditional requirements of church and civil law, which might otherwise make it impossible for them to continue. The same structures could also be used for fresh expressions.

Also locally, the size and responsibilities of Kirk Sessions is to be reviewed, with the aim of reducing the size of sessions and enabling shorter terms of active service for elders; and new ways to support congregations in long term vacancies are to be developed.

Another task is to offer support at a regional and local level to congregations on buildings, safeguarding, accountancy, employment and partnership work.

In terms of the national structure, the report notes that this is largely in the remit of the Special Commission on Structural Reform, but it commits to 'refocus(ing) the national staff team to focus on equipping and supporting local church'.

COMMENTS

Last month's pictorial feature from Hilary Brown about her adventures on the pilgrim route – the Camino de Santiago – sparked unusually positive reaction to the editorial desk.

Seems here that our readership travel, or have travelled, much more widely than earlier generations and cameras are ubiquitous.

Who will share their experiences?



HOPE KITCHEN 2



Christiana and Islay Cameron

Photo – Alex Clark

Islay Cameron's after church Coffee and Cake raised a wonderful £357 for Hope Kitchen. Well done to her, and to everyone who helped. It is so good to have a project

on our door step that exhibits Christian commitment and compassion to those who may be feeling on the margins.

KIRK SESSION CONFERENCE:

Sunday 15th September

at Kilbrandon Church, Clachan, Seil – meet 2pm



Our Kirk Session will be going away for an afternoon in the autumn. Setting aside a good time for thought, prayer and inspiration we aim to look at the ways we can improve the asset we have in the Parish Church. Ideas raised at the time of moving into one building will be reassessed as well as new ideas considered.

The fact that the roof work has now been completed allows us to think creatively. Further, 2021 sees the bicentenary of the construction of the original church building on our site. Therefore, we have the potential to mirror the ambition of the original members in providing a church fit for the parish of Oban and Kilmore.

CHURCH GROUNDS – A BIG TIDY



It is good to present our church buildings a good way. As we have two weddings in Oban Parish Church in July we are planning A Big Tidy on **Thursday 18th July**.

The plan is to hold two sessions where folk can come along to tidy a section of the grounds. This may involve weeding, pruning and raking. Please bring your own tools and a bag to take away weeds etc. Tea and coffee will be provided throughout.

**Sessions: 2.00-3.30pm
7.00-8.00pm**

A sign-up sheet has been placed at the rear of the Parish Church. The more who come along to help – the better our church will look.

For more info, contact Rev Dugald.



RECORDER GROUP

Good to see the Recorder Group, with a starting complement of eight members, preparing to resume activity after school holidays in September, with the enthusiastic support of Andy and Doreen Henderson.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT KILMORE & OBAN

Sunday 7 July

10.30	PC	Morning Worship (Hope Kitchen donations next week)
12.00	K	Morning Worship

Sunday 14 July

10.30	PC	Morning Worship (Donations for Hope Kitchen gratefully received)
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Sunday 21 July

10.30	PC	Morning Worship
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Sunday 28 July

10.30	PC	Morning Worship
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Sunday 4 August

10.30	PC	Morning Worship (Hope Kitchen donations next week)
12.00	K	Morning Worship

Sunday 11 August

10.30	PC	Morning Worship (Donations for Hope Kitchen gratefully received)
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Sunday 18 August

10.30	PC	Morning Worship
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Sunday 25 August

10.30	PC	Morning Worship
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KEY: CC – Church Centre
K – Kilmore Kirk
PC – Oban Parish Church

CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE

Funerals ...*Nothing can separate us from the Love of God*

Angus Beaton of Kilchurn Place, Oban
Joan Ellerington of Lynn Court, Oban
William McKillop of McCaig Road, Oban
Iain Auld of Dalriach Road, Oban
Catherine Johnston
Morag McGuire of Lorn Avenue, Oban
Elizabeth MacCallum of North Argyll House (formerly Mossfield Drive), Oban
Terry Donovan of Barcaldine

Baptisms ...*And a child shall lead them*

Harris Cameron McGee
Kian Wynd
McKenzie Wynd
London Wynd
Freya Wynd
Kendall Wynd
Skylar Wynd
Dakota Wynd
Piper Wynd

OVERSEAS REPORT

Intrepid travellers Sandra and Alex Clark recently took to the Corran Ferry to explore Sunart and Ardnamurchan – until 1975 part of Argyll.

Three linked charges, Morvern, Ardgorr and Strontian are in the care of the Rev Donald McCorkindale who, older readers may recall, once led a Summer mission school in Oban. The parish has two “government” churches designed by Telford and was also the location of the famous “floating church” used by Free Church members at Strontian when they were denied land to build their own place of worship.



Ardgour Church



Strontian Church

EDITORIAL: Ken MacColl

*Our next edition will be available on
Sunday 25th August 2019.*

Copy and photographs should be at the Church Office
or sent direct to the editor at kenmaccoll@btinternet.com
by Monday 19th August 2019.

Photographs and short news items are always welcome.
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