

This copy
reserved for:

*Friends and visitors
of St Andrew's Parish Church*

The Grapevine



St Andrew's Parish Church Magazine

Winter 2012

Volume 12, Issue 2

www.standrewsblantyre.com

CONTENTS

<i>In the Autumn 2012 issue you will find:</i>	<i>Page</i>
Minister's Letter	3
Christmas Services	4
Church News	5-6
Church News: <i>Emmaus</i>	7
Church News: <i>Sanctus Praise Services</i>	8
Church News: <i>Ordination & Induction of Jonathan Fleming</i>	9-11
Poem: <i>Reflection on Grief & Loss</i>	12-13
Children & Youth: <i>Bubblegum'n'fluff</i>	14
Children & Youth: <i>Lifepath: David Livingstone</i>	15-16
Money Action Group	17-18
Events: <i>Different Voices</i>	19-20
Puzzle Page: <i>Christmas Crossword</i>	21
Church Notices: <i>Communions, Baptisms and Funerals</i>	22
Useful Information	23
And Finally...	24

*Large print editions of The Grapevine are available.
Please contact the Church Office to arrange this for future issues.*

MINISTER'S LETTER

332 Glasgow Road
Blantyre

Dear friends,

This time of year is a time of beginnings and endings for many. We near the end of our calendar and the Hogmanay celebrations that attend it, but within the church our year has already ended and the new church calendar begins with the start of the season of Advent.

Inevitably we look back over the year that has passed at this time of year, and two of the most memorable times during the year for me have been the occasions when the clergy in time-honoured tradition gathered to lay hands on two of our church members as they were ordained into ministry. In the Spring time this was for Rev Fiona Ogg and in November it was for Rev Jonathan Fleming. The act of the laying on of hands is filled with symbolism as the setting apart of someone for their duties of service to God and the imparting of God's blessing upon them. Though if you are claustrophobic it must be a daunting experience!

For me it is a time of ending and beginning, the ending of the participation of Fiona and Jonathan in the life of our own congregation, but also the beginning of a whole new ministry for them with our blessing attending them.

But life never stands still, and I wonder who next might feel that urge to greater service in the church of our Lord Jesus Christ in whatever way that might be. The church offers many different opportunities, both locally and nationally. If ever you want to find out more, please just ask.

Enjoy this festive season, and make the most of the opportunities that lie ahead to share in worship as we celebrate the birth of the One who reveals to us the love of God.



WORSHIP



Christmas services

Sunday Funday Club Nativity Service

Sunday 9th December, 11.00 a.m.

*'A Present for the Baby'
in St Andrew's Parish Church*

Carol Singing

Sunday 9th December, 2:00 p.m.

at Victoria Nursing Home

Christmas Breakfast Café Service

Sunday 23rd December, 10:00 a.m.

in the Church Hall followed by

Christmas Carol Service

at approximately 11 a.m. on Sunday 23rd December

Watchnight Service

Monday 24th December

10:45 p.m. Refreshments in the Church Hall

11 p.m. Carol Singing in the Church

11.15 p.m. Service in the Church

Christmas Day Short All-Age Service

Tuesday 25th December, 10 a.m.

St Andrew's Parish Church

CHURCH NEWS

Juice Children's Event

Running during term time, Juice is a monthly two hour Saturday children's event for Primary 4 to Primary 7 ages. Juice has been running for the past three years, but we have had a number of regular volunteers move away from the area during this past year. We pray that we can continue this ministry to young people during 2013, but we will need a few extra pairs of hands to get involved. Could those belong to you? If you would like to find out more, please speak to Peter or Carolyn.

Autumn Fayre

This year's Autumn Fayre was held on Saturday, 27 October. A grand total of £1704.15 was raised for Church Funds. Many thanks to all who helped or supported this event in any way to make it such a success.

Church Directory

You should receive your copy of the new Church Directory sometime in the New Year. If you have changed address or phone number, perhaps you would contact the office before this is printed.

Beer 'n' Bible

The Beer 'n' Bible gatherings are an opportunity, in the relaxed setting of the Lounge in the West End Bar, for men to gather to chat about issues of faith, life and whatever else happens to be on the mind over a drink. This takes place on the even Thursdays in the month from 8 p.m. All men welcome.

Hall Lets

The excellent resources of the Nazarene Hall are now available for more future hall lets, so if you hear of any group or organisation that is looking for premises to let in the area, do please ask them to get in touch with the church office (01698 327958).

CHURCH NEWS

Ladies Group

The Ladies Group is a light-hearted, informal, friendly group open to all women on the last Wednesday of the month at 8 p.m. in the Nazarene Hall. Unfortunately, due to other commitments, Helen Finnie has had to withdraw as the main organiser of this group.

If you would like to be a part of a team that takes on this organisation—please contact Elsie Balneaves or Jean Murray of the Membership Action Group.

Jars of Grace Offering

Many thanks to all of you who contributed in our October offering with your Jars of Grace. The total raised was £177.62 and this will be given to WaterAid. WaterAid uses practical solutions to provide clean water, safe sanitation and hygiene education to the world's poorest people.

If you do not do so already, why not keep a jar for your loose change – we have a special offering every six months for different charities. Don't let that change accumulate under the cushions on your sofa; put it to good use instead!

90kg Rice Challenge

In the last issue of The Grapevine we had an extensive article about this project and the hope that this would be a project that could be undertaken not only by local churches but also local schools. We now have the support of most of the local schools including Calderside Academy.

In the new year we will get a shipment of rice from Malawian farmers to sell either among ourselves or to others in the community. For every 90kg of rice that is sold, one of the Malawian farmers will earn enough money to send one of their children to secondary school for a year.

You may want to prepare by brushing off some of those good rice recipes! What about a curry night?

CHURCH NEWS

Emmaus

The Emmaus course is an excellent resource that is run in St Andrew's under the leadership of the Maturity Action Group.

With many different modules usually of four or five week length, covering various different aspects of faith, it provides a good introduction for people seeking to find out more about God, those new to their faith, and also those looking to grow in their faith.



What can I expect to find in each session?

Each session includes time for Bible study, input and discussion, group exercises, meditations, ways to put faith into practice, and prayers. The groups are facilitated by other church members as we explore together on the way of faith. For the Spring Session 2013 the group will be studying the series '*Called Into Life*'

Spring 2013

Wednesday 3 April Called by God

Thursday 11 April Called to Conversion

Wednesday 17 April Called into Community

Thursday 25 April Called into Mission

Foodbank Update

The plans introduced in the last issue of *The Grapevine* for a local Foodbank to provide much needed food assistance to individuals and families are progressing. A group of interested parties from Larkhall, Hamilton and Blantyre agreed on 29th November 2012 to form a steering group and begin the process of setting up a Foodbank to cover these three communities. More details in the next issue!

CHURCH NEWS

Joint Services

sanctus

praise service

The joint praise services begun last year continue during 2013.
Please make a note of the dates and venues below.

2013

13 January (High Blantyre Baptist)

10 February (TBA)

10 March (Hamilton Hillhouse)

14 April (Blantyre St Andrew's)

12 May (Hamilton Trinity)

9 June (Blantyre Livingstone Memorial)

All services will be preceded by refreshments at 6:30 p.m. and followed by Worship at 7:00 p.m.

Just Desserts

The Magnification Action Group is planning an evening service for the end of January to support Souper Sunday, the Church of Scotland initiative to raise funds for the Kirk's HIV/AIDS Project. Plans will be intimated in due course, but the idea will be for folks to have their evening main course at home with family and friends, and then come together to the church with their desserts to share the food together over a time of worship and to hear about the work of the HIV/AIDS project. An opportunity to donate towards this work will be available. More details to come!

CHURCH NEWS

Ordination & Induction Of Jonathan Fleming

On Thursday 15th November 2012 folks from St Andrew's, along with members of Trinity Parish Church, Bothwell Parish Church, Motherwell North, and Hillhouse trekked to Erskine for the Ordination and Induction of Jonathan Fleming to the charge of Erskine Parish Church.

With not a seat spare, we shared in this special service for Jonathan, Karyn, Rachel and Hollie as Jonathan was ordained into the ministry of the Kirk. Pictured below you can see the Interim Moderator, Rev David Stewart, addressing everyone at the social that followed the service before handing over the reins to Jonathan.

Rev Karen Harbison spoke about her experiences as Jonathan's supervisor during his final placement at Trinity Parish Church with much



CHURCH NEWS

Ordination & Induction Of Jonathan Fleming

humour which included an introduction for the congregation to the world of Fischy Music with Karen's own version of the song "Welcome everybody", reprinted below. Karen's husband, Calum, and Peter led the singing of the song... with apologies to Fischy Music!

*Welcome, everybody, it's good to see you here
Welcome, everybody, it's good to see you here
Welcome, everybody, it's good to see you here
Gathering in this place.*

From Blantyre and from Hamilton, from Law and Motherwell,
We've all come together with a story we can tell
About your brand new minister – the one you think is swell,
Jonathan is here...

With young folk, kids and grannies he can always have a chat,
He will teach you new songs and he's never sharp or flat,
And when a meeting's over he'll say "Right that's that"
Jonathan is here...

Jonathan's a charming guy with a happy friendly face,
And when he starts a project he goes at quite a pace,
But at least he's got three females now to keep him in his place,
Jonathan is here...

With laptops, mobiles, ipads and gadgets that are new,
He's a whizz with Powerpoint, and good with Facebook too,
He understands technology when we don't have a clue,
Jonathan is here...

A 'can do' guy who sees a way, for nothing's too much trouble,
We could give more clues away, but that would burst his bubble,
Will his beard be on or off or will there just be stubble?

CHURCH NEWS

Ordination & Induction Of Jonathan Fleming

Jonathan is here...

Surprises and some hiccups, there's bound to be a few,
A friend to us he'll always be, we give him now to you,
But if you want to welcome him, you'll have to join the queue,
Jonathan is here...

On Sunday 18th November, Peter 'preached in' Jonathan at his first Sunday service, a long tradition in the Church of Scotland, and extended the best wishes of all in St Andrew's to everyone at Erskine Parish Church. A gift to Jonathan from your donations will be presented soon.



POEM

Reflection on Grief & Loss

This poem, fully known as “I’m Spending Christmas with Jesus”, was written by Wanda Bencke for her 13 year old handicapped daughter, Lyndsara Bencke. On Christmas day 1997, Lyndsara had a seizure and lay in a coma for five days before she died. During those five days Wanda wrote the poem. She sent it out in a belated Christmas card to friends and relatives that year. They also sent it on to other friends and relatives, and it has since spread around the world, with alterations as it has spread.

*I see the countless Christmas trees
around the world below
with tiny lights, like Heaven’s stars,
reflecting on the snow
the sight is so spectacular,
please wipe away the tear
for I am spending Christmas
with Jesus Christ this year.*

*I hear the many Christmas songs
that people hold so dear
but the sounds of music can’t compare
with the Christmas choir up here.
I have no words to tell you,
the joy their voices bring,
for it is beyond description,
to hear the angels sing.*

*I know how much you miss me,
I see the pain inside your heart
but I am not so far away,
we really aren’t apart.
So be happy for me, dear ones,
you know I hold you dear.
And be glad I’m spending Christmas
with Jesus Christ this year.*

POEM

Reflection of Grief & Loss

*I sent you each a special gift,
from my heavenly home above.*

*I sent you each a memory
of my undying love.*

*After all, love is a gift
more precious than pure gold.
It was always most important
in the stories Jesus told.*

*Please love and keep each other,
as my Father said to do.*

*For I can't count the blessing
or love he has for each of you.*

*So have a Merry Christmas
and wipe away that tear.*

*Remember, I am spending Christmas
with Jesus Christ this year.*



CHILDREN & YOUTH

Bubblegum 'n' fluff

It is that time of year again when we (along with Hillhouse, Trinity, Blantyre Baptist and Livingstone Memorial churches) host all of the local Primary 6 children over the course of seven school days to get beneath the fluff of Christmas to the real story of the birth of Jesus.

**Bubblegum
'n' Fluff**

This is now the fifth year of running Bubblegum 'n' Fluff and amazingly we get children halfway through Calderside Academy still able to sing the theme song!

In St Andrew's we are hosting Auchinraith Primary on Wednesday 5th December and there is still an opportunity for a few more volunteers on that morning, from 9 a.m. to around 12 noon. Please call Peter on 01698 828633.

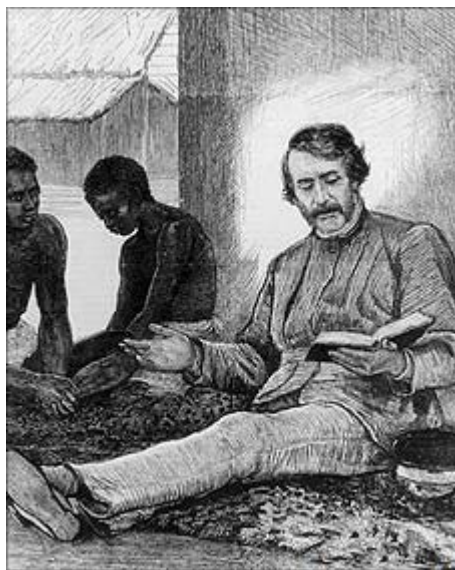


CHILDREN & YOUTH

Lifepath: David Livingstone

Blantyre's most famous son, David Livingstone, was born on 19 March 2013 and next year a number of different events to celebrate the bicentenary of his birth are being planned, including a service with the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland at the Livingstone Memorial Parish Church in March.

A year ago the Hamilton and Blantyre Mission Committee of Hamilton Presbytery asked Jen Robertson (the Schools and Churches Youth Development Worker) about ways in which better support could be offered to the David Livingstone Centre by local churches. This has led to a partnership between the Calderside Learning Community Chaplaincy Team and the staff at David Livingstone Centre to create a programme for second year pupils of both Calderside Academy and John



Ogilvie High School that will explore the life and faith of David Livingstone called 'Lifepath'. In thinking about and experiencing something of Livingstone's spiritual life journey the pupils will be encouraged to think and reflect on their own spiritual journey.

This is inspired by some programmes that Scripture Union has developed in Cathedrals in England that take the life of a special historic person of faith in that particular community and give an opportunity for young people to think about the impact that faith had on that person's life. Whereas these have been generally targeted at primary aged children, our own event is aimed at an older group of young people.

The programme is based around the four key themes that Calderside

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Lifepath: David Livingstone

Academy adopted as their core values this year (if you have been into the school recently you will have seen huge new banners with these words): reliable, respectful, responsible, resilient.

Over the course of a week in June next year we will have around 400 pupils attend the David Livingstone Centre where they will have the opportunity to learn about Livingstone's formative years in Blantyre led by the staff at the Centre, a chance to explore (literally as this will take place all over the grounds) and experience Livingstone's mission in Africa led by the chaplaincy team, and finally to think about the ongoing legacy of Livingstone's faith, mission and work in a workshop that Christian Aid will be leading.

It is going to be an amazing week, and a brilliant way to engage hundreds of young people in learning about Livingstone, celebrating his legacy and thinking about what this all means for us today. And in case you were wonder... there will be opportunities for you to get involved as we will be looking for volunteers to help out each day, so watch this space!

Prayer for Advent

As Christmas time draws nearer
let us not forget that we are celebrating
the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Let us remember to give him
pride of place in our hearts and homes.

At this special time of Advent may we look forward
in happy anticipation to your birthday.

Marion Gebbie

ACTION GROUPS

Money Action Group

The Money Action has just completed a busy time organising the successful Autumn Faye which realised £1704.15 for church funds.

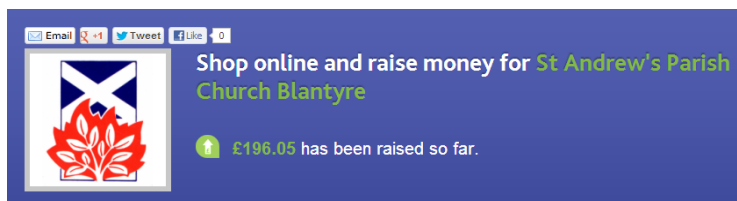
Thanks to everyone who helped make this event such a success both those who helped and those who attended.

Applications for further funding will be reviewed by the money group after the church accounts are prepared at the end of the year. This will provide the financial information required to determine if St. Andrew's can support funding next year. Each application requires St. Andrew's to contribute a percentage of the funding in addition to the value being requested from the funding organisation therefore we would have to be in a positive financial situation to support these.

There are various alternative ways to raise funds for the church without having to donate personally and the money group is still trying to raise funds by two of these means

St Andrew's
**Action
Groups**
Money

easyfundraising
.org.uk



Can you please register with this site and link through to shopping sites when ordering items on the internet? Since July 2011 the 17 people supporting St Andrew's Church have raised £196.05 for church funds. Think what we could raise if we had more supporters.

Old mobile phones are still being collected by the money group to raise funds for the church. If you have an old phone lying about which is no

ACTION GROUPS

Money Action Group Contd.

longer in use please consider donating it to the church? It can be left in the bag at the church entrance.

Again we are always looking for people to help with the money group. If you would like to help with the financial decisions or just help count the collections on a Sunday please speak to Margaret Crookston or May Shaw.

Metro Centre Newcastle Outing.

A successful shopping trip to the Metro Centre Newcastle took place on 3rd November 2012. This outing raised money for church and Sunday Funday club funds. The raffle on the bus raised £97 for the Anthony Nolan Trust.

Thank you to all the ladies for the lovely flowers they sent me after I decided this would be the last trip I would be organising after doing it for 20 years.

Margaret Crookston

Prayer

We lift our voices high,
praising your holy name because we are your children.

We are ever in your care
and surrounded by your love,
graciously given, freely and forever.

We pray we can show to others how wonderful it is to be a Christian; a true follower of Christ Jesus.

May we, over this wonderful Christmas time,
be aware of those less fortunate than ourselves;
now is the time to seriously help others.

Marion Gebbie

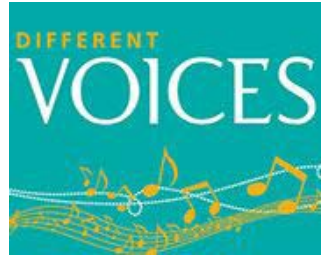
EVENTS

Different Voices

An event for everyone interested in using music to enhance the life of church and community.

Friday 15th March 7:00pm – Saturday 16th
March 18:00pm

St Cuthbert's Church,
Lothian Road, Edinburgh.



£40 per ticket (Lunch and refreshments are included in the ticket cost).

The event is designed to gather people involved in worship and outreach and offer ideas and resources for music can enhance both church and community life.

The Friday Evening Worship Event

This will be a place where we try to model ways that local churches could host worship, making use of local musicians (and other artists) in ways that are attractive and accessible for local people not already part of the church. We will then invite those who wish to remain after the event to 'debrief' the evening, ask questions and reflect on how they might adapt the ideas. This in part is also to model the practice of debriefing worship – a very healthy thing that sadly we rarely do.

The Saturday Morning and Afternoon Event

This will be the 'main event' and consists of twelve workshop throughout the day and a time of closing worship. A full description of the workshops can be found here: http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/worship/music_for_worship/different_voices/national_music_event

The Saturday Evening Event

This is primarily to gather as many musicians and non-musicians interested in the use of music for worship and outreach. We will explore ways we can work across the country, presbyteries or parishes in ways that support the work we do with music. We will harvest some good ideas that

EVENTS

Different Voices Contd.

will directly support, encourage and connect church musicians. Some ideas might be:

- a new Scottish hymn book of non-published/amateur music
- a regular slot on UCB radio for local praise bands, connecting writers with singers/musicians that could road test their new compositions
- connecting 'lone musicians' who struggle in a parish with others so that they could collaborate and enhance one another's musical contributions
- Our hope is that we will all leave with ideas of what we can be doing locally to resource one another, as well as some big ideas of how we could collaborate regionally and Nationally too.

Some of those involved are:

Noel Richards – International Worship Leader, and writer of 'All Heaven Declares' Enabling Contemporary Worship

John L. Bell – of the Wild Goose Resource Group and Iona Community Singing for Everyone

Paul Mealor – Reader in Composition at the University of Aberdeen and Composer of 'Ubi Caritas' for the Royal Wedding Ceremony. Composition in Worship and Outreach

Fischy Music – Peerless Pioneers of Children's music for churches, schools and families.

We will also be joined by the National Youth Choir of Scotland, New Scottish Arts, John Kitchen, Origin Scotland, Givin' it Laldae and other contributors. Workshops will include song writing, improvised music, developing musicality in toddlers, music with people with dementia, change management in church music, AV clinics, Scottish Rap, and how to play hymns meaningfully.

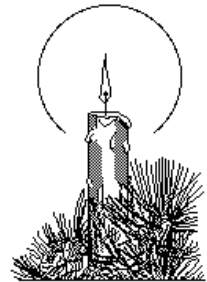
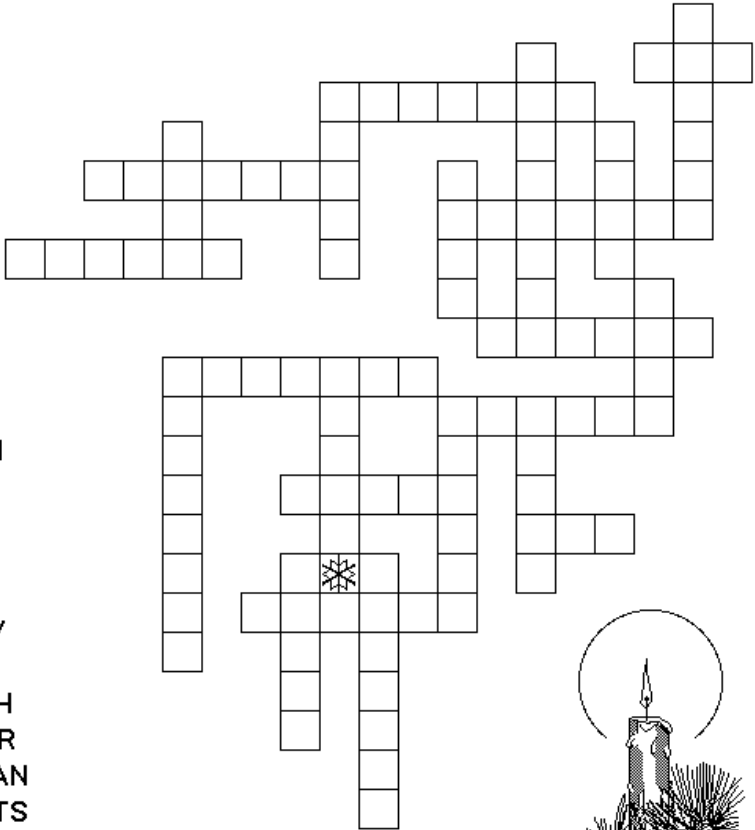
To book online please go to www.madstuff.biz or contact Mission and Discipleship Council on 0131 225 5722 enquiriesDV@cofscotland.org.uk

PUZZLE PAGE

Christmas Crossword

Make all the words fit in this crossword. Each word is only used once.

- ELF
- TOY
- GIFT
- BELL
- TREE
- STAR
- SANTA
- COMET
- CUPID
- VIXEN
- CANDY
- FROSTY
- WREATH
- DASHER
- DONNER
- SLEIGH
- DANCER
- CHIMNEY
- BLITZEN
- RUDOLPH
- PRANCER
- SNOWMAN
- PRESENTS
- REINDEER



CHURCH NOTICES

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Do this in remembrance of me.

March 2013

- 3rd 11 a.m. Communion Service
3rd 3 p.m. Afternoon Communion Service

June 2013

- 2nd 11 a.m. Communion Service
2nd 3 p.m. Afternoon Communion Service



Funerals

I am the resurrection and the life.

Whoever has faith in me shall live, even though he dies.

September 2012

- 8th Mary Wright, 17 Maxwell Crescent, Blantyre

October 2012

- 23rd **Michael Knight**, 42 Maxwell Crescent, Blantyre
24th **Frances Sneddon**, Victoria Nursing Home, Blantyre

November 2012

- 1st **Allan Walker**, Mill House, Station Road, Blantyre
9th **Tommy Gilmour**, 18 Broompark Road, Blantyre
28th **Jack Reid**, 19 Moorfield Road, Blantyre

USEFUL INFORMATION

Blantyre St Andrew's Parish Church of Scotland

Church Street, Blantyre, G72 0NY

www.standrewsblantyre.com



Minister

Rev. Peter Johnston
332 Glasgow Road
Blantyre, G72 9LQ
Tel: 01698 828633
Email: peter.johnston@standrewsblantyre.com

Session Clerk

Mr. Andrew Williamson
124 Craig Street
Blantyre, G72 0NG
Tel: 01698 825829
Email: andy.c.williamson@gmail.com

Assistant to Session Clerk

Mrs. Elsie Balneaves
321 Glasgow Road
Blantyre, G72 9HN
Tel: 01698 824155
Email: elsiebalneaves@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Miss May Shaw
88 Morris Crescent
Blantyre, G72 0BZ
Tel: 01698 824117
Email: may.shaw@btinternet.com

Church Officer

Mr. George Greenhorn
9 Jedburgh Street
Blantyre, G72 0ST
Tel: 01698 828468

Blantyre St Andrew's Parish Church of
Scotland is a registered Scottish Charity:
SC005955

CHURCH OFFICE

Open Tues, Wed, & Fri
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Church Administrator

Mrs Gill Fraser
Tel: 01698 327958
Email: office@standrewsblantyre.com

OTHER CONTACTS

Brownies (3rd Blantyre)

Phylis Crossan, 713128

Organist

Susan Menzies, 07709 393084

Guides (6th Blantyre)

Susan Menzies, 07709393084

Cosy Café

Rev. Peter Johnston, 828633

Juice

Rev. Peter Johnston, 828633

Ladies Group

Vacant

Rainbows (3rd Blantyre)

Louise Gibson, 827947

Sunday Funday Club

Catherine Williamson, 825829

Traidcraft Stall

Carolyn Johnston, 828633

Tuesday Tea Room

Isabelle Menzies, 827930

AND FINALLY...

Bible Trivia

- Q. What kind of man was Boaz before he married?
A. Ruthless.
- Q. What do they call pastors in Germany?
A. German Shepherds.
- Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?
A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.
- Q. What was the greatest female financier in the Bible?
A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little pharaoh.
- Q. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?
A. Samson. He brought the house down.
- Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden?
A. Your mother ate us out of house and home.
- Q. Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?
A. Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once.
- Q. Which area of Palestine was especially wealthy?
A. The area around Jordan. The banks were always overflowing.
- Q. Who is the greatest baby sitter mentioned in the Bible?
A. David. He rocked Goliath to a very deep sleep.
- Q. Which Bible character had no parents?
A. Joshua, son of Nun.