

# NEW CONNECTIONS

The congregational Magazine of  
Strathaven: Trinity Parish Church

***SUMMER 2025***



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## Summer Reflections: Rooted in Extravagant Love

*"I pray that you... may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ." – Ephesians 3:18*

As May draws to a close and summer begins to open before us, the Church of Scotland gathers once more in Edinburgh for the General Assembly. Delegates from across the country—ministers, elders, deacons, and guests—step into the hall with hearts full of hope, concern, curiosity, and faith. Each year, the Assembly is a chance to reflect on who we are as a church, to wrestle with what we believe God is calling us to be and do, and to listen—really listen—for the whisper of the Spirit amidst the motions, debates, and decisions.

This year, the theme guiding those gathered is *Extravagant Love*. Not cautious love. Not tidy or polite or careful love. But *extravagant* love. The kind that spills over the edges. The kind that reaches further than we think it should. The kind that dares to embrace not only the loveable but the overlooked, the hurting, the complicated, the stranger.

Paul's words in Ephesians call us to grasp—if we can—*how wide and long and high and deep* the love of Christ really is. It's a prayer, not a conclusion. Because such love isn't easily explained. It's something we learn to see, to trust, and to live into.

And maybe that's why summer is such a good season to reflect on it.

Because summer slows us down. It gives us space to breathe. To pause between the busyness of life and ask: Where have I seen this kind of love? When did I last feel held by it? Where might I be called to show it?

Extravagant love doesn't require dramatic gestures. It shows up in the smallest of things:

- Sitting with someone in silence when words won't help.
- Offering a meal without needing thanks.
- Forgiving someone who hasn't yet said sorry.
- Making space for someone else's voice at the table.
- Choosing grace instead of gossip.
- Staying with the hard conversation when walking away would be easier.

These are acts of resistance in a world that too often runs on transaction, division, and self-protection. And they're the kind of love Jesus lived—love that took risks, crossed boundaries, broke rules, and gave itself away without demand for return.

As a church, we are invited again to be rooted in this kind of love—not just talking about it, but becoming it. Embodying it. Living lives that speak of it in ways louder than sermons and gentler than slogans.

And in the midst of this, we also look ahead to welcoming Shaw back among us later in the summer. His moderatorial year, shaped by the theme *Building Together* has taken him all across Scotland and beyond, witnessing how God is at work in places familiar and unfamiliar. We look forward to hearing his stories, sharing his reflections, and celebrating his faithful service.

But for now, summer stretches before us.

Let it be a time of rest—not just because we're tired, but because God made us for rhythms of work and renewal. Let it be a time of gratitude—for all that's blooming around us and within us. And let it be a time of love—not forced or performative, but generous, surprising, and real.

This season, may we catch glimpses of the extravagant love of Christ. And may we become part of the way that love is made known.

Thanks be to God.

*With Love and Blessings*  
Eleanor



### **PREACHING ROTA**

As always, the rota may need to be altered but at least it gives an indication of who's scheduled for where. A special thank you to Valerie, Robin, Norman, Julie and Eleanor for assisting.

If anyone would like to assist by concluding a service (announcing offering, leading offering prayer and intimating closing hymn followed by blessing) or opening a service (this will be at Glassford and Strathaven involving up to and including children's address) then please volunteer to the minister who will provide appropriate resources.



### **June**

	<b>Chapelton / Strath</b>	<b>Glassford</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> June	Norman / Valerie	Eleanor
8 <sup>th</sup> June	Shaw	Julie
15 <sup>th</sup> June	Norman & Shaw / Valerie	Shaw
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Eleanor	Norman
29 <sup>th</sup> June	Norman / Shaw	Shaw / Valerie

## FUNERALS

Norman Garrow 4 June



Messy Church takes place on the second Friday of every month in Chapelton from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us for crafts, songs, fun and fellowship and a bit to eat is included.

### COMMUNION—2025

Communion Sundays will fall on the customary Sundays for each location:

- **Chapelton & Strathaven** - Second Sundays in June, September and December
- **Glassford** - First Sundays in September and November, and second Sunday in May

It would be appreciated if you could use the hand gel which is available on entry to the church. If anyone is uncomfortable with receiving communion from the elders you may of course refrain or indeed bring your own.

**All elders are asked to meet before the service.**



### OFFERINGS

The Sunday offering (collection) is being taken during the service in all three buildings.

We are conscious that many have switched to direct giving which has proved to be invaluable particularly over the last few years. Therefore, simply let the offering bag pass you by on a Sunday. Thank you to everyone for your continuing support.

Offering: In addition to bank transfer, electronic offerings can be made using the link <https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/donate/?cong=171167> or via the QR code



## **LECTIONARY READINGS**



### **June**

June 1, 2025	Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26
June 8, 2025 (Pentecost)	Acts 2: 1-21; Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b; Romans 8:14-17; John 14:8-17, (25-27)
June 15, 2025 (Trinity)	Proverbs, 8: 1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15
June 22, 2025	1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a; Psalm 42 & 43; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39
June 29, 2025	2 Kings 2:1-2; 6-14; Psalm 77: 1-2, 11-20; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9: 51-62

### **July**

July 6, 2025	2 Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30; Galatians 6: (1-6), 7-16; Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20
July 13, 2025	Amos 7: 7-17; Psalm 82; Colossians 1: 1-14; Luke 10: 25-37
July 20, 2025	Amos 8:1 -12; Psalm 52; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42
July 27, 2025	Hosea 1:2-10; Psalm 85; Colossians 2: 6-15 (16-19); Luke 11: 1-13

### **August**

August 3, 2025	Hosea 11: 1-11; Psalm 107: 1-9,43; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12: 13-21
August 10, 2025	Isaiah 1: 1, 10-20; Psalm 50:1-8; Hebrews 11: 1-3; Luke 12: 32-40
August 17, 2025	Isaiah 5: 1-7; Psalm 80: 1-2; Hebrews 11:29-12: 2; Luke 12: 49-56
August 24, 2025	Jeremiah 1: 4-40; Psalm 71: 1-6; Hebrews 12: 18-29; Luke 13: 10-17
August 31, 2025	Jeremiah 2: 4-13; Psalm 81: 1, 10-16; Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16; Luke 14: 1, 7 -14

## **STRATHAVEN FLOWER CALENDAR**

### **June**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs E. Brownlie
8 <sup>th</sup>	Strathaven Joint Communion Service
15 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs M. Brown
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs M. Neilson
29 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs M. Tait



### **July**

6 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs M. Hamilton
13 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs A. Dalziel & Mrs A. Callan
20 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs J. McKay
27 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs E. Milne

### **August**

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mrs H. Bennie & Mrs E. Primrose
10 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs M. McCleary & Mrs I. Beveridge
17 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs F. McKay
24 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs A. White
31 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs M. Davidson

*Anne Grady (tel. 523285) & Lilly McConnell (tel. 520989)*

## **GLASSFORD FLOWER CALENDAR**

### **June**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs M. Edwards
8 <sup>th</sup>	Strathaven Joint Service
15 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs J. Marshall
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs R. Millar
29 <sup>th</sup>	Miss L. Fleming

### **July**

6 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs J. Meikle
13 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs R. Fleming
20 <sup>th</sup>	Miss S. Foster
27 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs M. McDonald



### **August**

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mrs C. Gordon
10 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs M. Millar
17 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs D. Law
24 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs A. Milwain
31 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs R. Redpath

*J Meikle ( tel. 520941) & R Andrew (tel. 521662)*



## **CHAPELTON FLOWER CALENDAR**

### **June**

1<sup>st</sup> Mrs V. Allan  
8<sup>th</sup> Strathaven Joint Communion Service  
15<sup>th</sup> Mrs M. Simmonds  
22<sup>nd</sup> Mrs L. Menzies  
29<sup>th</sup> Mrs C. Leggate

### **July**

6<sup>th</sup> Mrs B. Catani c/o J. Catani  
13<sup>th</sup> Mrs C. Leggate  
20<sup>th</sup> Mrs M. Hamilton  
27<sup>th</sup> Mrs E. Kennedy

### **August**

3<sup>rd</sup> Mrs L. Toms  
10<sup>th</sup> Mr J. Murdoch  
17<sup>th</sup> Mrs J. Bruce  
24<sup>th</sup> Mrs J. Smith  
31<sup>st</sup> Mrs L. Taylor



*Mary Frew (tel. 300268) & Val Allen (075 785 06102)*

## **MODERATOR'S CHALLENGE – THANK YOU!**

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported the Moderator's Challenge (ie my challenge) in aid of Lights for Malawi. Through your incredible generosity, a total of £47,000 has been raised so far (with the deadline being the end of May)! These funds will help provide safe, sustainable solar lighting for school children and students in Malawi, enabling them to study in the evenings and pursue their education without the dangers and limitations of darkness. The total sent by Strathaven Trinity was £4135.80.

This life-changing initiative shows the power of compassion and collective action. Thank you for helping to brighten futures—one light at a time.

*Shaw Paterson*



**CHILDREN, FAMILY AND YOUTH WORKER -**  
**JULIE ROBERTSON**

Well I can scarcely believe that summer is upon us – and concerned in equal measure we seem to have had too much summer before summer has started! Summer plans are truly afoot, and I require your help with all I have planned! If you can help in any way, please do reach out and let me know or attend one of the panning meetings I will schedule over the coming weeks:

**HOLIDAY CLUB**

Holiday club will run on Monday 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> July. Times will be from 09:30-12:30 for set up/clear up and club running from 10:30-12:00. I require volunteers for the kitchen (2), to man groups (6), registration (1). If you are able to help on any of these days, please let me know.

The other activities I am running are family based or for groups of mixed ages and therefore should only require additional volunteers to assist with teas/coffees, refreshments. If you can please do let me know.

If you are able to attend any of these events or require additional information, I am happy to help. And if you are unable to support in person or attend, please do keep these events and all who attend in your prayers. The prayerful support you provide is essential to this ministry.

Our Holiday Club planning meetings will be weekly on Wednesdays at 18:00 in the vestry from 4<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> June.

*Till next time – Blessings!*

*Julie*

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

**MESSY CHURCH**

next meets on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June in Chapelton. We meet from 17:30-19:30 and includes a light meal

This will be our last meeting of the current session.

If you would like to volunteer to join our Messy Church team, please let me know.

**TODDLER GROUPS:**

Toddler groups run term time as follows:

Monday – Strathaven 10-11.30.

Wednesday - Chapelton 10-11.30.

We will finish up both groups for the current session on week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> June.

If you are able to make some toast and juice or help put out some toys then please get in touch. If you have pre-school kids and you just want to come along and eat said toast and get a coffee, please feel free as I would love to see you.





**ALL ACTIVITIES ARE FREE BUT DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOMED. ALL RUN IN LETHAME ROAD BUILDING**

- **Craft time Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> July**

11:00-12:00 ALL AGES but under 5's with a parent/guardian.  
 13<sup>th</sup> July—slime making  
 20<sup>th</sup> July—no cook baking  
 27<sup>th</sup> July—summer crafts



- **Friday Family Nights—all welcome with parent/guardian**

4<sup>th</sup> July—Movie night 18:30-20:30  
 25<sup>th</sup> July—Beetle Drive 18:30-20:30

**BEETLE DRIVE**



- **The Chosen**—join us weekly on Wednesdays 2<sup>nd</sup> July - 30<sup>th</sup> July 19:00-21:00 to watch and discuss the first series chronicling the life of Jesus.



- **Take Time** Monday 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> July 19:00-20:30—a time for Christian meditation and reflection for those looking for something more relaxing!

- We will round off summer with a church family trip to Ayr beach on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2025 10.00—16.00. Small fee may apply dependent on numbers

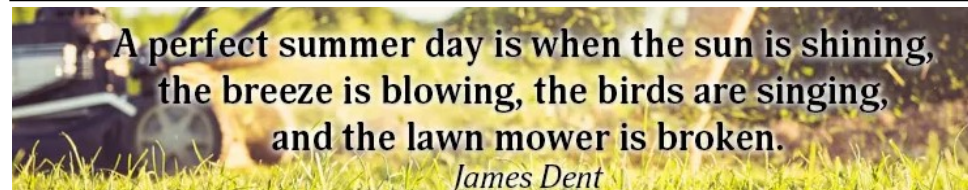
**For further info contact: [jrobertson@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:jrobertson@churchofscotland.org.uk)**

**With a new theme everyday come to one or them  
all! Register via Eventbrite or email  
jrobertson@churchofscotland.org.uk**

**Summer 2025**



Free holiday club for p1-p7.  
Monday 14th, 21st and 28th July. 10.30-12.00.  
Doors open at 10AM.  
Please register!!



A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining,  
the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing,  
and the lawn mower is broken.

*James Dent*



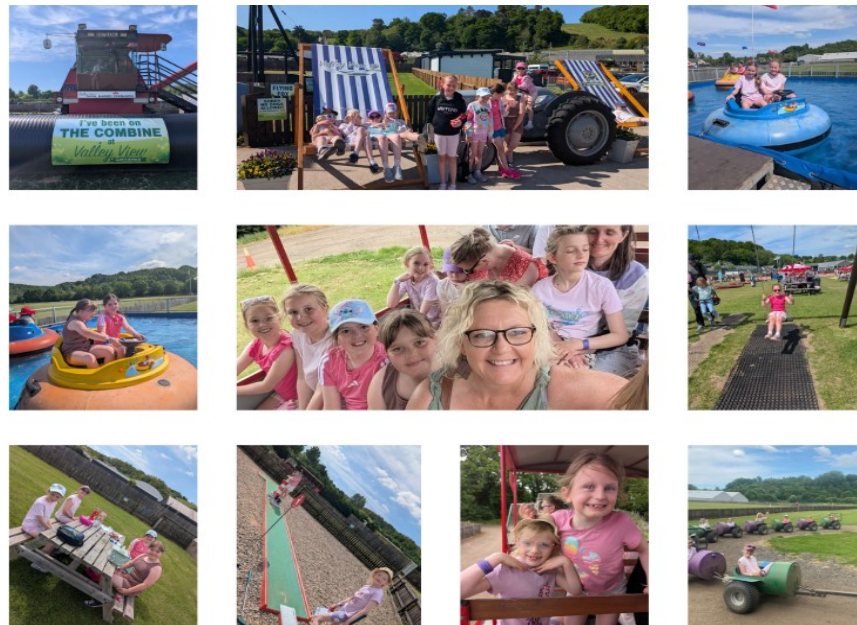
Summer time already! WOW! We hope everyone has enjoyed the lovely, sunny weather, long may it continue! Here's hoping we enjoy this through out the summer holiday! The Sunday School have had an exciting few weeks! Our fundraiser for Christian Aid was a wonderful success, thank you to everyone who got involved. We managed to raise £263.84 - fantastic!

On Sunday 18th May there was a Sunday School trip to Valley View for all 3 Sunday Schools. What a beautiful day we had. So much fun playing and trying out all of the different activities - we had a great day.

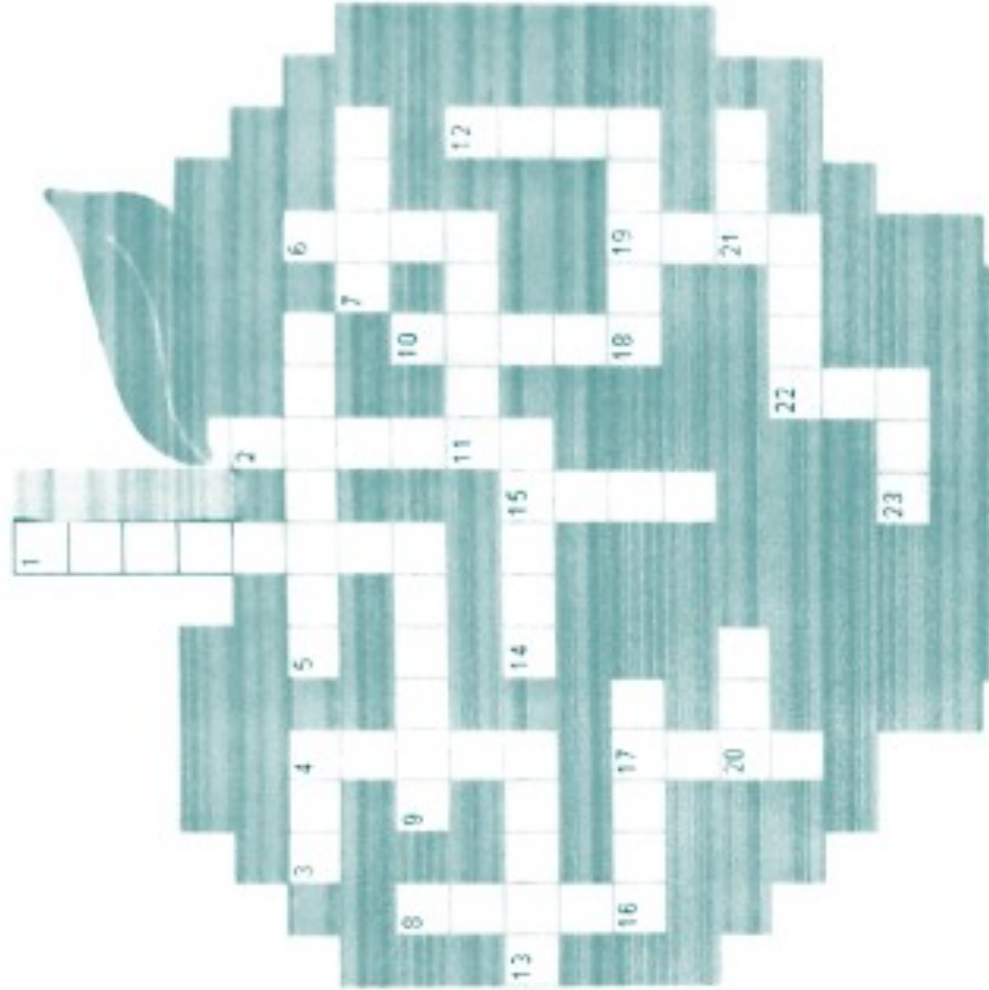
On Sunday 22nd June the Strathaven building will have their annual prize giving service followed by an end of term party for all three Sunday Schools, where we will have a bouncy castle, games, hotdogs and cakes! We hope that many of you can join us.

We wish all of our families a wonderful, relaxing summer holiday and look forward to hearing all about it when we see you back in August, thank you,

#### Sunday School Team



# Creation







### Across

3. God removed one of these from man to make woman
5. Creatures
7. What God used to water the Garden
9. To make from nothing
11. Our planet
13. Healing type plants
14. Eve was the first one

### Little night

- lights
18. Grew in the garden; one was of life; one was of the knowledge of good and evil
20. The heavens
21. First woman
22. The lesser light that rules the night
23. The greater light that rules the day

### Down

1. Another name for the Garden of Eden
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Eden
4. They fly in the air
6. These swim in the seas
8. These are sown to grow plants; fruits reproduce by these
10. Apples, oranges, and bananas
12. God created our earth in 6 of these
15. First man
17. What God did on the 7th day
19. Where God planted the first garden
22. Adam was the first one



### **GUILD 2025 - 2026**

The committee met recently to make a start on planning the new syllabus. For 2025-2026 we will again hold all the meetings in the large hall in Strathaven at 2.00 pm.

The first meeting will be held on Tuesday 9 September when Luckenbooth will provide musical entertainment. The next meeting will be held on 23 September.

Full details of all meetings, etc will be noted in the Syllabus which will be available at the first meeting on 9 September. The Guild is open to all men and women and if you would like to come along and 'try before you buy' we will be delighted to see you. We have either a speaker, musical entertainment or activities which are followed by tea/coffee and home baking.

The Avondale Community Bus is available to transport anyone who requires it - contact Marjorie on 07872050305 if you would like to book a seat on the bus.

*Ishbel Anderson*

### **CALL FOR ACTION AFTER GRUESOME DRC ATTACK.**

The Christian Open Doors charity, which supports persecuted Christians, reported in May's Life and Work that 70 Christians were beheaded in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in the village of Mayba on the 13<sup>th</sup> of February.

They state that 'the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) is part of an extremist network that wants to wipe out Christianity in the region. If nothing is done, more attacks will follow.' The group targets Churches, kills pastors and displaces entire Christian communities. According to Open Doors researchers, at least 355 Christians were killed for their faith in the DRC last year. The charity is calling on Christians in the UK to respond in prayer and action.

'We must pray for our brothers and sisters in the DRC, who are facing unimaginable horror. But we must also act. We must raise awareness, contact our MPs, and demand that the UK government speaks out. If we stay silent, more Christian lives will be lost'  
(Open Doors)

When we have such freedom to worship as we choose, it's hard to remember that so many are still being killed for their faith across the world.

### **STRATHAVEN CHORAL SOCIETY**

The Strathaven Choral Society held their annual Spring Concert in St Ninian's in Stonehouse on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May. The programme was by contemporary composers and concluded with Bob Chilcot's inspiring Gloria – sung in Latin. With other texts in English, Spanish and French, it was a



very challenging programme for the Choral Society who rose to the occasion as ever – a very successful and most enjoyable evening.

Trinity members Linda and Bill Menzies, Janice Hackett, Barbara Smith, Helen Whitelaw, Moira Stobo and Christine Leitch all sang their hearts out and it was lovely to see them thoroughly enjoying the occasion.

### **MODERATORS VISIT TO LOAVES AND FISHES**

On Wednesday 7 May it was my privilege to visit Loaves and Fishes Foodbank along with Ruth, our church secretary and the Very Rev. Dr. Shaw Paterson, our minister who at that time was still Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. Shaw encouraged us to support this essential charity shortly after he began his ministry here, over 30 years ago. We have continued to do so and Lesley Davidson, Chairman of Loaves and Fishes, thanked us most warmly for our support. Lesley was able to personally thank Ruth who raised £820 by running in the Manchester Marathon in April.

It was a really interesting visit where we learnt so much about their work and the ongoing difficulties that they face. They now provide 200 food parcels weekly in East Kilbride and Strathaven and if anyone is unable to collect they will deliver.

Despite food donations from many organisations and churches they have to buy 90% of the food they provide. If you are able to make a financial donation you can do so via the Loaves and Fishes website.

Thank you all for your continuing support.

*Ruby Davidson*





This year Christian Aid Week was 11 – 17 May.

**CHRISTIAN AID QUIZ 'Things that can be Worn'** – a total number of 22 entries were received with only one being totally correct so the winner is Sue McKinlay (prize was long johns, socks and polo mints). From the 7 entries which had one answer incorrect the second prize-winner is Georgie Mills (prize was rubber gloves, socks and polo mints). Third prize winner is Morag Weir (prize was keyring with bow, socks and polo mints). The solution is on a separate page. Thank you to everyone who took part. (See photograph of Georgie receiving her prize)

**EVENTS** – money is still being counted for the various events which have taken place but the Strathaven Sizzle raised £324.61. To be confirmed – funds raised from the Glassford lunch, Chapelton breakfast, Sunday School games challenge, cryptic quiz, etc.

**ENVELOPES / CASH DONATION** – the collection buckets are still available in Chapelton and Strathaven with last date of submission for return being Sunday 1 June.



**BANK TRANSFER** – donations to be included in the church fund raising can be sent to the Strathaven Christian Aid Account – sort code 80-22-60 and account number 17508760; reference your name.

When all monies are received and counted the total raised will be included in the next New Connections magazine.

Thank you for supporting our fund-raising for Christian Aid 2025.

# CAWEEK25 QUIZ ANSWERS

Find the answers below:

1. Burny breeks (3,5)

Answer: *Hot pants*

2. Cricketer's headgear (6,3)

Answer: *Bowler hat*

3. Wrap quiet tool (5)

Answer: *Shawl*

4. Skirt murdered Scots, we hear (4)

Answer: *Kilt*

5. Sheepskin swindle (6)

Answer: *Fleece*

6. Irish accents (7)

Answer: *Brogues*

7. Girls pants (5)

Answer: *Jeans*

8. Drag across Jersey (8)

Answer: *Pullover*

9. American punches on the feet (5)

Answer: *Socks*

10. Do donkeys wear there? (5)

Answer: *Mules*

11. Sounds like trivial layer of paint (9)

Answer: *Petticoat*

12. Bridge round hand warmers (6,6)

Answer: *Rubber gloves*

13. To protect above everything (7)

Answer: *Overall*

14. Soaking spades, maybe (7)

Answer: *Wetsuit*

15. Mint part of bottle (4,4)

Answer: *Polo neck*

16. Bash conveyor, for example (4)

Answer: *Belt*

17. Waterproof apple (10)

Answer: *Mackintosh*

18. Gums up hard shoes (5)

Answer: *Clogs*

19. Running with short, shallow breaths (7,5)

Answer: *Jogging pants*

20. Supports teeth and trousers (6)

Answer: *Braces*

21. Follows Duffel, for example (4,4)

Answer: *Tail Coat*

22. Peak chemist (8,5)

Answer: *Mountain boots*

23. Warm jacket? (6)

Answer: *Blazer*

24. Battle to keep head and neck warm (9)

Answer: *Balaclava*

25. Silver underwear (4,5)

Answer: *Long johns*

26. Leap clubs, perhaps (8)

Answer: *Jumpsuit*

27. Cigar dan turned into a buttoned sweater (8)

Answer: *Cardigan*

28. Duke's capital boots (11)

Answer: *Wellingtons*

29. A krona for this jacket (6)

Answer: *Anorak*

30. Bend knot round neck (3,3)

Answer: *Bow tie*

# MEMORY CLUB

## STRATHAVEN MEMORY CLUB

The June meetings of the Memory Club are on Wed 11th June when we are going to celebrate Gala Week with fun activities, quizz and an afternoon tea, so just have a light lunch before you come. The next meeting is on Wed 25th June when the Strummers make a return to entertain us with well known songs. Both meetings at 1.30 till 3.15.

## HEART FOR ART PROJECT

We enjoyed a fantastic launch of this project on Wed 7th May . Members and their families as well as invited guests (Moderator Right Rev Dr Shaw Paterson, Lord Lieutenant, Lady Haughey , Rev Derek Gunn Moderator of Forth and Clyde Presbytery, our Interim Moderator Rev Norman McKee, Asst Minister Rev Eleanor Hamilton., the Session Clerk, Ruby Davidson and CEO of Crossreach, Viv Dickenson and Director of Older People's Services Alan Logan)were able to enjoy viewing the exhibition of our members' work, have a chat with members and their families and enjoy an afternoon tea. We are delighted that one of the paintings by Jessie Riley will be on display at this year's General Assembly.

The June meetings of the group are on Wed June 4th and Wed 18th June at 1 till 3pm. The group now has its full complement of 12 members.

For further information about either group please contact Lynda Horn on 07778579504.





**HEALTH HELP  
INTERNATIONAL**

**STRATHAVEN FRIENDS OF HEALTH  
HELP INTERNATIONAL**

This month there are some good news stories from Zambia. The crops planted earlier in the year are ready for harvesting, although they now have to be quick as more heavy rain is on the way.

The team in Monze recently received a donation of 10 wheelchairs from the Bank of Zambia. It's encouraging to see that the work that HHZ team are doing is recognised and supported by Zambian organisations.



At the HHZ headquarters, work has been completed on a new bore hole, this will provide a reliable source of water for the staff and the tenants.

Just a reminder that the Alternative Gift Catalogue is available all year round. A local person recently asked for donations in lieu of birthday gifts and was able to buy a cow for a family in India and here is the birthday cow!!



*Kathleen Russell*



## Strathaven Fairtrade

The Fairtrade stall will be available after the service on the first Sunday of every month. We hope to offer a limited range of your favourite fairtrade sweets and groceries and thank you all once again for your support for the poorest and most vulnerable producers throughout the world.

Maureen and Nancy

### **REMINDER!** New Connections has now gone digital!

If you would like to receive the magazine via email rather than hard copy, please would you pop a message to Ruth at the office on **strathaventrinity@gmail.com** with your name, who your elder is and your preferred email address.

#### **LIVE STREAMING**

Our Strathaven services are live-streamed (and available as a recording later). It is only the chancel area and first two pews that are in sight of the camera. Parents, in particular, should be aware that if they do not wish their child to be visible 'on-line' then they should ensure that that they sit a couple of pews from the front.

We are now well established with live-streaming services from the Strathaven building on Sundays and for funerals and weddings (when requested). However, we would value some additional volunteers to assist and then a rota can be established. You do not need to understand how live-streaming works. It's straightforward if you are used to working a computer. Please get in touch if you wish any further information about what is involved or speak to one of the 'team' on a Sunday.

#### **LOAVES AND FISHES**

As you know we have been supporting Loaves and Fishes Foodbank for some time now and they are extremely thankful for all that they receive from us.

As times are getting harder for many people Loaves and Fishes are facing a crisis with not enough food to support the needs of many.

If you can, please bring an item of food to church on a Sunday morning or drop off at office when it is open.

Any dried or tinned foods and toiletries would be suitable and would make a huge difference to the work of the charity.

Together  
we can  
make a  
difference!



### **A Snapshot of Trinity Parish**

I hope some of you are enjoying discovering the width, breadth and depth of the activities within Trinity Parish.

However there are a number of apologies and omissions which must be corrected.

#### **Omissions**

Heart for Art  
I understood this was a short term project but in fact it is, for the next two years at least, a permanent addition to the activities offered by the parish.

*Maureen Geraghty*

Group	Volunteers	
Heart for Art	Claire Campbell	Anne Grady*
	Lynda Horn*	Elizabeth Kennedy
	Janette McDowall Keenan	Sheila Stewart
Elders	Lilly McConnell	
Flower Donations - Strathaven	Isobel Beveridge	Forrest family



### **CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU**

Just a reminder that  
Annabel from Citizens Advice Bureau is in the vestry every Tuesday from 10:00am – 1:00pm.  
Please book an appointment with Annabel on  
07592 995152

### **TRINITY MEN'S COFFEE GROUP**

There is a men's group that meets in the Rankin Room (upstairs in the hall) on Wednesday mornings between 10.30 am until 12 noon for coffee/tea, biscuits and a chat. Come and go for part or all of the time, as suits you.

### **LADIES KEEP FIT**



Trinity's Keep Fit class has now finished for the summer. This will restart on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September in the small hall.

*Cillia McLeary*

### **WHEELIE BINS**

We have been advised that the bin lorries will no longer empty our wheelie bins unless the lid is able to close.

In Strathaven - the church wheelie bin is the black bin located in the manse garden. This bin is of sufficient size for normal activities. However, if you are having a function/party/event that generates more rubbish than usual please arrange to take it to the amenity site for disposal. Please do not stack the bin with the lid open or leave on the ground adjacent as birds and foxes make quite a mess.

### **CAR PARKING**

Please be considerate of our neighbours when parking for church events! Please ensure you park responsibly and be careful not to block anyone's access.

This applies for Sunday services, funerals, weddings and weekday activities in the halls.

At busy times parking is a premium and so please only use the car park off Crawford Street when attending the church or halls - there have been several instances lately when the car park has been full prior to anyone arriving for a church/hall event! Therefore, do not be afraid to ask if others who are parking in the car park are attending something in our premises and, if not, encourage them to park elsewhere.

### **KIDS KLUB**

Kids Klub meets on those Sundays when the Sunday School is "on holiday". Children wishing to participate should go into Church as normal for the children's address then make their way to the large hall where there will be board games for them to enjoy during the remainder of the service.

It would be great if we could have a few more helpers (we need two per session) – the role is supervisory and there is no requirement to plan activities. Now is a good time to contact me so that PVG forms can be completed. There is no regular commitment for Kids Klub – just operating on a "now and again" basis. I will put together a rota, depending on who is available.

*Claire Campbell (01357 520191)*

### **BIGGER PICTURE for Academy Learners ...**

Mondays and Fridays at Lunch Time

Academy learners are welcome to come along to the large hall for a hot chocolate and biscuits (and a Toastie, if they wish) while eating their lunch, or watching cartoons on the big screen.

Please let as many as possible know about the hall being open – it's a dry and warm place to have lunch.

We still need volunteers to help make toasties and/or hot chocolate and simply 'be there'. For more information please speak to Cillia Mcleary.



# WHO?

<b>Minister:</b>	Rev Dr Shaw Paterson	<a href="mailto:spaterson@churchofscotland.org.uk">spaterson@churchofscotland.org.uk</a> 01357 520019
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	Rev Norman McKee	<a href="mailto:normanmckee946@btinternet.com">normanmckee946@btinternet.com</a> 01698 827358
<b>Session Clerk:</b>	Ruby Davidson	<a href="mailto:rubydavidson96@yahoo.com">rubydavidson96@yahoo.com</a> 07809 128038
<b>Church Secretary:</b>	Ruth Ward-Cox Mon-Thurs 9:15-11:45	<a href="mailto:strathaventrinity@gmail.com">strathaventrinity@gmail.com</a> 01357 529316
<b>Sunday School:</b>	Pamela Walker	TSundaySchool@outlook.com
<b>Youth Worker:</b>	Julie Robertson	<a href="mailto:jrobertson@churchofscotland.org.uk">jrobertson@churchofscotland.org.uk</a> 07544 249324
<b>Treasurer:</b>	David Lipowski	<a href="mailto:david.lipowski@gmail.com">david.lipowski@gmail.com</a>
<b>Presbytery Elder:</b>	Scott Bennie	01357 521 661



## **CHURCH OFFICE**

The church office hours are term time Monday to Thursday 09:15—11:45.

The email address is [strathaventrinity@gmail.com](mailto:strathaventrinity@gmail.com)

## **Lifts to Church**

If anyone requires a lift to Church, please contact

Kath Russell  
07916 171830



# NEW CONNECTIONS

## EDITORIAL

I've just come in from my gloriously sunny garden – and it's 7pm in the evening – to write this piece for the magazine. How fitting for the large Summer Edition!!!

This same garden has given me the inspiration for the way I see our church in the current times. There are a lot of cut backs and action in the way of regeneration in the church of today; but just look at how God does it in nature!



There are those plants which die back completely and then re-emerge each Spring (like my lemon mint – I assumed it was dead!)

Then some die back completely but need to be grown again from seed the next year (begonias)



Some sturdily keep going all year but with a burst of energy produce beautiful flowers in summer (dianthus)

Others require a little light pruning just to guide them in the right direction (roses)



Some are so old that they require help now to stand up (my weigela – but I love it and am determined to keep it going as long as it wants to keep flowering);

Yet others require substantial pruning to generate abundant growth (buddleia – otherwise they get completely out of control):



And then there is the gorgeous grass, stipa arundinacea – I had to look up the name – which provides year-round colour, changing with every season.

It's a very simple message from God through creation: change and regrowth has many different forms; be prepared to embrace them and the rewards are staggering!

Wishing you all a colourful, restful and sunny summer. See you in September!

Take care

Maureen

**Final date for inclusion in our  
September edition of New Connections is :-  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2025**