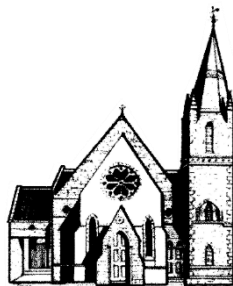


St Ninian's Church
Corstorphine

Quarterly



Spring 2023



Edinburgh, Corstorphine St Ninian's Parish Church (Church of Scotland)
144 St John's Road, EH12 8AY
Scottish Charity Number SC016557

MINISTER: Rev James Aitken
17 Templeland Road, Edinburgh EH12 8RZ
Tel: 334 1324; Email: JAitken@churchofscotland.org.uk

Church Telephones: OFFICE (and Voicemail): 316 4777;
CRUSH HALL (Church Officer): 334 8615
e-mail: office@st-ninians.co.uk
Office Hours: Tue/Wed/Thurs - 9.00am to 12 noon; Fri - 9.00am to 1.00pm

website: www.corstorphinestninians.org.uk

**If you are a visitor to St Ninian's or are reading this magazine for the first time,
the following information may be useful:**

Our SUNDAY SERVICES are held at 10:30am and are followed by fellowship with tea and coffee in the Martin Shields Hall.

COMMUNION SERVICES are at 10:30am and 3:00pm on the first Sundays in March, June, September and December.

During term time PRIMARY SUNDAY SCHOOL is held every Sunday and SECONDARY SUNDAY SCHOOL meets two-weekly, both at 10.25am. A CRÛCHE is available for pre-school youngsters.

The CHOIR leads the Praise under the direction of our Organist, Anne Kirkpatrick, and choir practices are on Thursday evenings from September to May.

The GUILD meets weekly on Tuesday afternoons between September and April, with interesting speakers, teas, and outings.

Volunteer drivers offer a CHURCH TRANSPORT SERVICE for our less able members - see the back page for contact details. Reserved car parking is also available at the rear of the church for anyone who cannot walk far or who prefers to avoid steps - access to the church is by the path to the right of the buildings.

Many Church and non-Church organisations use our premises throughout the week and contact details can be found on the back page.

Dear friends,

*When Jethro saw all that Moses was doing for the people, he said
“What are you doing ... Why do you sit alone with all of them from
morning to evening? ... You will only wear yourself out and wear out all
the people. The task is too heavy for you ... take my advice ...”
(Exodus 18: 14 - 18)*



The Old Testament Book of Exodus is famous in Sunday Schools for stories of plagues, the parting of the Red Sea, and the Ten Commandments. Exodus tells the story of the Israelites' escape from slavery in Egypt and their wandering in the wilderness on their way to the Promised Land.

What is less well known, but should be better known, is the story of Moses' father-in-law, Jethro, scolding Moses for working too hard, “You will wear yourself out...” he tells his son-in-law. In the wilderness, God forms the Israelites, a tribe, into a nation. To be a nation the Israelites need a leader (Moses), a country to call their own (the Promised Land), and they need laws (the Ten Commandments). They also need a governing structure with a civil service. The story in Exodus 18 of Jethro upbraiding Moses for working too hard is light-hearted and funny, but it leads Moses to put in place a group of ‘capable, God-fearing people, honest and incorruptible, appointed as officers who sit as a permanent court so that the people will regain peace and harmony.’ (Exodus 18: 20 - 25)

It has always been the case that God's people need good order and proper governance. Even though we are God's people, we can't be relied upon to intuitively structure our community and keep ourselves safe. Just like the ancient Israelites, we need proper governance and leadership. In January, St Ninian's took steps to update the way the congregation is organised. At a meeting on Sunday 22nd January, the congregation agreed to adopt from May (all being well) a new governing structure called a Unitary Constitution, which brings together all the congregation's responsibilities in one leadership body, the Kirk Session, made up of elders. This is the Church of Scotland's preferred constitution, and it replaces our previously separate Deacons' Court and Kirk Session.

St Ninian's also updated its training for elders in how to keep people safe, particularly children and vulnerable adults, when they are enjoying worship or fellowship in the church. On Saturday 14th January elders spent a morning completing their Safeguarding training.

The presence of God in our lives should lead to feelings of liberation (as it did for the Israelites) and a belief that the life of Jesus is a model for a full life, a life that has lasting significance, meaning and purpose. Amidst this joy of God's presence it can sometimes feel dull and pedestrian to have to spend time, energy, and money on organising ourselves well and structuring the way we worship, meet and work together. But these are things that God's people have always had to do, if they want to grow God's kingdom on earth.

So, as we begin a new year please pray for and support those who lead us at St Ninian's (the elders); the governing body that structures our work and worship (the Kirk Session); the Session Clerk Team, which orders the Kirk Session's work; and the people who keep us safe, led by our Safeguarding Co-ordinator Laura Langdon.

Finally, although changes are happening, that doesn't mean St Ninian's hasn't been well governed in the past. Let me take this opportunity to express my gratitude to everyone who has served on the Deacons' Court over the years, for the work that they have undertaken to keep our buildings in good repair and our finances sound amongst many, many other things. Thank you.

James

Dates for your diary

Kirk Session Meetings

2023 - 17th May; 6th September; 8th November

Deacons' Court Meetings

2023 - 22nd February

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Congregational Register

New Member by Transference Certificate:

Mr G Maurice McIlwrick, 21 North Gyle Loan

Funerals:

11 November 2022*	Mr Ian Imrie, 7 Clerwood Bank
16 November 2022	Mrs Ann Morton, Forrester Park Grove
17 November 2022	Mrs Elizabeth Archibald, 91 Drum Brae South
25 November 2022*	Mrs Gertrude Bridgewater, 2 Baird Gardens
29 December 2022*	Mr Stewart Storie, 14/1 Rocheid Park, East Fettes Avenue
11 January 2023	Mr James Jackson, 21 Tylers Acre Avenue
20 January 2023*	Mrs Elizabeth Warren, Lammermuir House, East Links Road, Dunbar
13 February 2023*	Mrs Kathleen Rumney, 13 Hillview Road

* Denotes member

* * * * *

St Columba's Hospice Coffee Morning

St Ninian's Church, Corstorphine
11th March 2023
10am - noon



Books, Hampers
Home Baking, Tombola
Hospice Stall
£3 Adult & 50p child



St Ninian's Guild



Our Guild is progressing well with variety in its meetings and lots of good fellowship and fun. Worship is included weekly, and the theme of “Wee Seeds and Big Trees” was explained in an interesting and fun way by James.

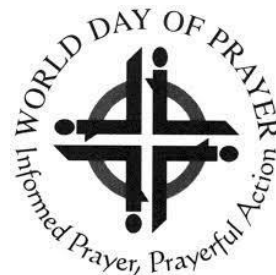
Our Guild has survived since 1940 and this anniversary was celebrated in February with an in-house lunch and an amazing cake created by Norma G.

More interesting talks will come as our meetings will continue at 2.15pm on each Tuesday until and including 25 April.

Of course, all are welcome to share fellowship with us and to learn more about our Guild.

Valerie Thomson

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Each year the **World Day of Prayer** is marked with services on the first Friday of March: 3rd March 2023. In Corstorphine we lead with a church service in St Anne's Church.

Each church participates in the morning with a representative taking a shortened service in a care home or sheltered housing complex and again in the afternoon in the church service.

This year the service is prepared by the WDP committee of Taiwan. Locally much preparation takes place, and it is worthwhile if we get good support from the people in our churches.

Perhaps we shall see you there, at St Anne's, at 2.30pm on Friday 3rd March?

Valerie Thomson
Convener of WDP in Corstorphine

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Corstorphine Literary and Geographical Society (aka “The Lit”)

I should like you to know that the Lit is relaunching on the first Monday of March, April, May and June 2023. The meetings will be in our Burns Hall from 7.45pm to 9.00pm. Entrance each evening by donation - £3 is suggested.

The programme is:

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 6 March | John Barrett: Life after Westminster, including his support of activities in Corstorphine |
| 3 April | Grant Donaldson: Looking back in Corstorphine over 100 years ago |
| 1 May | Rev Moira McDonald: Corstorphine Witch Hunt |
| 5 June | Musical Evening |

Your support is invited, and the amount of support generated will influence a decision about whether The Lit continues into session 2023 - 24.

Valerie Thomson
Hon. Secretary

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Primary Sunday School

We have enjoyed a very busy last quarter with the same 10 children joining us on a semi-regular basis and some visitors along the way.

We had a crafting Sunday where the children made Christmas cards, hot chocolate reindeer, and baubles, all to sell at the Christmas Fair. It was a bit frantic, but Alpha came along and helped finish things off. Thanks to Daina for coming up with the ideas and preparing the kits, it was great fun and the children seemed to enjoy themselves.



It was our Christmas Party on the 10th of December when we had fun with party games, food and of course a visit from Santa. I think that the children would have been exhausted with all the running about that they did - the leaders certainly were!

(cont'd on next page)



For the family service we decided to do a re-run of the very successful “The Donkey’s Perspective”, and we were pleased that Hannah Marshall and Jenna Langdon, the writers, were both in the congregation. All the children took part, from official photographer, Jeff, to Mary and Joseph, Cora and Nathan, it was good fun if a bit stressful but, as they say, “it was all right on the night”.



With the start of the New Year we are looking forward to more activities and learning through the Roots resources and, of course, the family services that Derek is planning.

Barbara Mackie

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Alpha



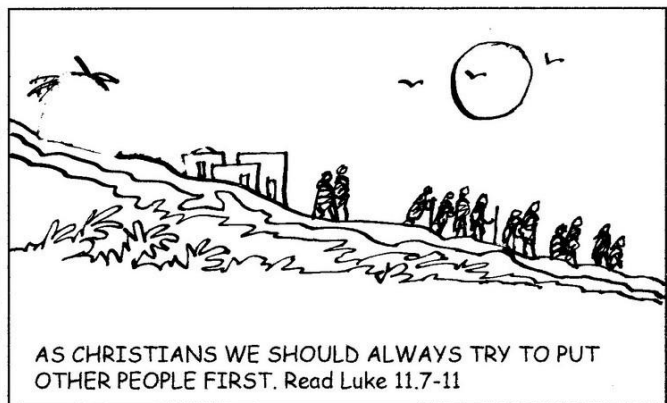
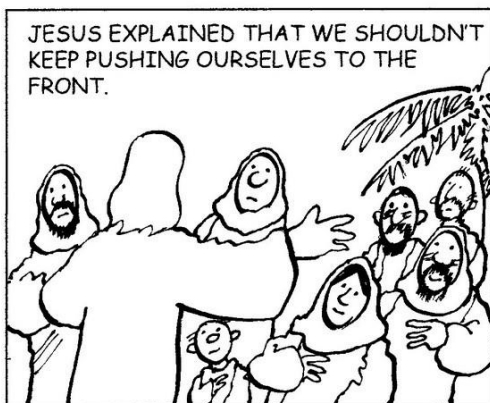
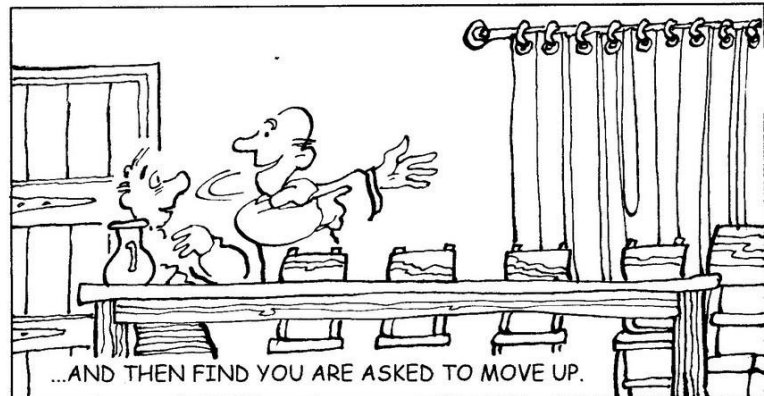
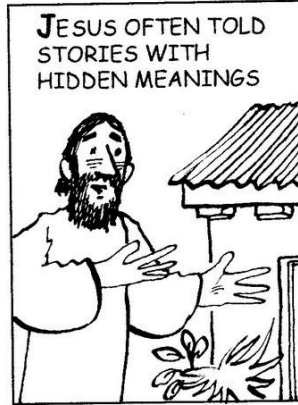
Alpha continue to meet every second Sunday but last quarter, in preparation for the Christmas Fair as well as our end of term service, we met most Sundays. There was a hive of activity each Sunday with lots of craft making to sell at our stall. With help from many we made a variety of Christmas decorations and with Pat Gibb’s kind assistance we planted some seeds that grew, with lots of TLC, into lovely plants ready for the Fair.

The children are enthusiastic as well as creative and throw themselves into everything we do which resulted in not only lots to sell on the day but lots of fun along the way too. On the day of the fair the children managed the stall and sold most of the items, raising a fantastic £250.49!

After the Fair there was no rest as we had to prepare and rehearse for the Christmas family service. The Sunday school groups came together for the nativity which was fun and a resounding success.

At the moment we are busy learning about the history of our church and working on a photo timeline as well as a time capsule. We will let you know how we get on in the next edition of the Quarterly so watch this space! Until next time, ‘over and out’ from Alpha

Donna Short



(from resources on the website 'Parish Pump', as are the Wordsearch and Crossword which appear on later pages)

Fabric Committee

As instructed by Presbytery, a Structural Engineer's inspection was carried out at the Manse and noted numerous render cracks, mostly on the surface but several appear to be deeper structural cracks which will have to be fully investigated. Estimates have now been obtained for the remedial work. Due to recurring humidity problems and mould growth at the Manse we obtained a specialist's report which recommends wall treatments, heating, and humidity extractor fans. These works will be pursued as a matter of urgency.

A multitude of lighting tubes have recently burnt out. The rose window timer failed and then all the light tubes had to be replaced. However, the gallery is now fully illuminated.

When is a smart meter not so smart? Our gas supplier fitted a "smart" meter to allow direct billing but inaccurate readings kept occurring so investigations continue.

I was disappointed to note graffiti damage on the pin-boards in the corridors. The group conveners have been asked to reduce the blank areas and hopefully this problem can be stopped.

Repairs to the south-west area of the main church roof included new lead channels and slating renewal. The work was carried out in December with men working seven hours a day in sub-zero temperatures. Rather than me!



Alister McGlashan
Convener

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Mission Committee

A retiring offering was held on Remembrance Sunday to raise funds to help to provide gift bags for refugees living in Edinburgh. As a result we were able to donate £600 towards these gifts. Twenty bags were delivered by members of the congregation to the refugees, and these were all gratefully received. A big thank you to all who gave so generously, and to those who gave their time to deliver the bags.

Last Easter, the Mission Committee took the decision to arrange for 'Bags of Hope' for members of the congregation who no longer are able to attend Church services. The project went so well that we decided to repeat this prior to Christmas. Over forty bags were delivered, the recipients were delighted to receive their bags, and those who helped to deliver them found it a very rewarding experience.

On Sunday 15th January we held a Congregational Lunch after a break of three years due to Covid and we raised £510 for Fuel Foundation Scotland. These monies will be used to help vulnerable families to assist them with their energy bills. Eighty-five people came to enjoy lunch and fellowship. A big thank you to all who attended, and especially to Georgie and her Hospitality Team for all their hard work.



Over 2,200 Congregational Christmas cards were delivered to St Ninian's members and other households in and beyond the Parish.

Our Fresh Start collection was held at the beginning of December. Once again a wonderful amount of goods were received and duly delivered to Ferry Road Drive. Fresh Start pass on their sincere thanks for our continuing support.

Margaret Hunter
Convener

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St Margaret's Day



The Princess Royal and the Rev. Neil Gardner at the Castle

November 16th is St Margaret's Day, and the St Margaret's Chapel Guild hold a service of thanksgiving at Edinburgh Castle for the life of Queen Margaret, followed by lunch. Her Royal Highness Princess Anne is our Patron and we are very fortunate that after a break of a few years she was able to be present with us last November. I am a member of the Chapel Flower Team and it was a great privilege for me to arrange the Chapel flowers and to prepare a posy for her Royal Highness. A nerve-wracking task, the posy was made up with roses, freesia, eryngium and eucalyptus (from Anne Kirkpatrick's garden!). The posy was gratefully received with wonderful comments from her Royal Highness.

Margaret Hunter

Rock Trust



THANK YOU SO MUCH! St Ninian's supplied **1,683** items of food and toiletries to Rock Trust over the course of 2022 which was our first full year of collection since the Covid pandemic struck. Given the huge rise in the cost-of-living which we are currently experiencing, this compares extremely favourably with the 1,814 items collected in 2019 and the generosity of your ongoing support is greatly appreciated by all concerned.

Young people affected by homelessness have always had hard choices to make but they are increasingly losing any choice at all. As some of the hardest hit by the cost-of-living crisis, the impact on young people's mental health and access to education and even jobs could have long-term repercussions. They do not have family and support networks to protect them in a crisis making the threat of experiencing or returning to homelessness very real. This is why the invaluable work of the Rock Trust and its wide-ranging initiatives is of supreme importance and why the continuing support of St Ninian's remains vital.

As the call for its services continues to increase, the Rock Trust is extremely grateful that it can rely on the regular monthly delivery of 100+ items from St Ninian's. All kinds of non-perishable foods are welcome including products which can be reconstituted with water such as packets of soup, porridge pots and noodle and pasta pots all of which are invaluable to those who have access only to a kettle. Toiletries and other little luxuries are appreciated also, as is any form of financial support.

There is now a dedicated cupboard in the vestibule at the front door of the church where all items can be left. If you would like to help but are unable to bring items to church, please get in touch with me.

More detailed information on the work of the Rock Trust may be found by visiting www.rocktrust.org.

Susanne Hope (334 2489)

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We at Corstorphine St Ninian’s Church, continue to fundraise for Christian Aid enabling it to assist communities in the developing world, although COVID-19 restrictions still affect us to some extent.

Christian Aid Fundraising 2022

Due to Covid-19, we have had to use alternative means of raising funds - JustGiving, the Sunday School’s Water Challenge, The Kiltwalk and 2 Retiring Collections (the Ukraine Appeal in March, and the Christmas Eve Appeal)

1. Ukraine Emergency Appeal	£1,996.00
2. CA Week (inc £449 from Sunday School)	£2,395.70
3. The Kiltwalk	£1,000.00
4. Christmas Eve Retiring Collection	<u>£1,104.85</u>

Total raised in 2022 £6,496.55

2023 Fundraising Events will include:

Christian Aid Week	14-20 May
Soup and Sweet Lunch	14 May
The Kiltwalk	17 September
Christmas Eve Retiring Collection	24 December

Thank you to everyone who helped and contributed to the amount raised and for your continuing support.

Alec Millar, Christian Aid Co-ordinator
 Tel : 334 1471 alec.w.millar@blueyonder.co.uk

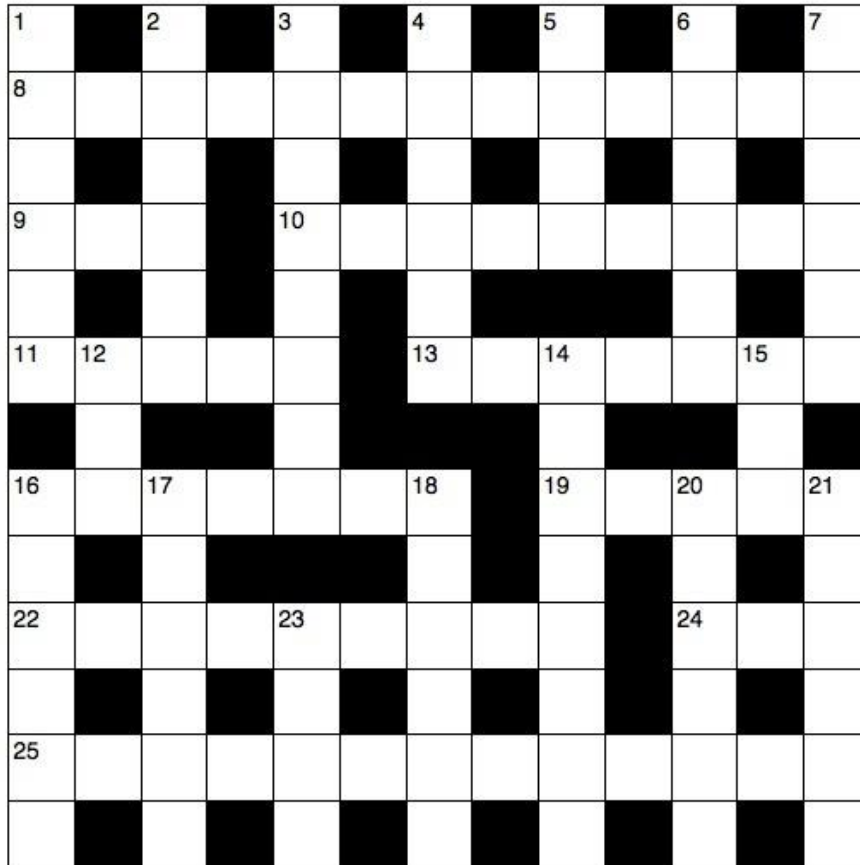
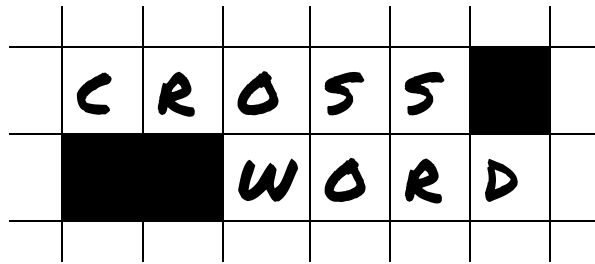
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Christmas Gift Service

A big thank you to everyone for the response to our annual Salvation Army Gift Appeal. We were pleased to be able to give Barbara Wells the sum of £810 together with many gifts. In the present economic climate and with so many calls on our funds for various charities at this time of year, this really was a magnificent effort.

Diana Fairgrieve





Across

- 8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)
- 9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the – heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)
- 10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)
- 11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)
- 13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)
- 16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)
- 19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to – your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)
- 22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On – – let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)
- 24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1)
- 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

Down

- 1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)
- 2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)
- 3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)
- 4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but – him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)

- 5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)
- 6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)
- 7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' – salt to – your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)
- 12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)
- 14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always – to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)
- 15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)
- 16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)
- 17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)
- 18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)
- 20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)
- 21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to – (Genesis 8:5) (6)
- 23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)

[Answers on a later page!]

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Wordsearch

In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to 'present him to the Lord'. At the same time, she, as a new mother, was 'purified'. Thus, we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, 40 days after Christmas. Jesus is described in the Bible as the Light of the World, and so early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day. The Church also fell into the custom of blessing the year's supply of candles for the church on this day - hence the name, Candlemas. The story can be found in Luke 2:22-40, where Simeon makes his great declaration of faith and recognition of Jesus.

<p>Forty Days Baby Boy Public Jewish Mothers Temple Jesus Office Evening Prayer West</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; font-family: monospace; font-size: 1.2em;"> <tr><td>D</td><td>L</td><td>R</td><td>O</td><td>W</td><td>J</td><td>E</td><td>W</td><td>I</td><td>S</td><td>H</td><td>P</td><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>E</td><td>O</td><td>S</td><td>L</td><td>O</td><td>R</td><td>D</td><td>Y</td><td>R</td><td>R</td><td>A</td><td>D</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>O</td><td>I</td><td>T</td><td>A</td><td>T</td><td>N</td><td>E</td><td>S</td><td>E</td><td>R</td><td>P</td><td>R</td></tr> <tr><td>O</td><td>U</td><td>S</td><td>F</td><td>V</td><td>M</td><td>E</td><td>A</td><td>S</td><td>H</td><td>I</td><td>P</td><td>Y</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>L</td><td>N</td><td>I</td><td>I</td><td>G</td><td>E</td><td>E</td><td>A</td><td>T</td><td>S</td><td>E</td><td>W</td></tr> <tr><td>M</td><td>S</td><td>R</td><td>C</td><td>T</td><td>R</td><td>N</td><td>L</td><td>I</td><td>O</td><td>P</td><td>A</td><td>W</td></tr> <tr><td>I</td><td>T</td><td>O</td><td>J</td><td>S</td><td>T</td><td>U</td><td>I</td><td>D</td><td>M</td><td>A</td><td>R</td><td>Y</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>H</td><td>D</td><td>R</td><td>E</td><td>S</td><td>I</td><td>P</td><td>N</td><td>N</td><td>S</td><td>A</td><td>B</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>G</td><td>N</td><td>M</td><td>F</td><td>S</td><td>U</td><td>M</td><td>R</td><td>E</td><td>A</td><td>N</td><td>A</td></tr> <tr><td>Y</td><td>I</td><td>P</td><td>R</td><td>Y</td><td>B</td><td>U</td><td>E</td><td>I</td><td>A</td><td>V</td><td>C</td><td>B</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>L</td><td>T</td><td>A</td><td>L</td><td>O</td><td>N</td><td>S</td><td>E</td><td>D</td><td>Y</td><td>E</td><td>Y</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>N</td><td>D</td><td>I</td><td>D</td><td>Y</td><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>R</td><td>Y</td><td>D</td><td>E</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>C</td><td>E</td><td>C</td><td>I</td><td>F</td><td>F</td><td>O</td><td>R</td><td>T</td><td>Y</td><td>V</td><td>E</td><td>R</td></tr> </table>	D	L	R	O	W	J	E	W	I	S	H	P	N	N	E	O	S	L	O	R	D	Y	R	R	A	D	N	O	I	T	A	T	N	E	S	E	R	P	R	O	U	S	F	V	M	E	A	S	H	I	P	Y	E	L	N	I	I	G	E	E	A	T	S	E	W	M	S	R	C	T	R	N	L	I	O	P	A	W	I	T	O	J	S	T	U	I	D	M	A	R	Y	S	H	D	R	E	S	I	P	N	N	S	A	B	E	G	N	M	F	S	U	M	R	E	A	N	A	Y	I	P	R	Y	B	U	E	I	A	V	C	B	N	L	T	A	L	O	N	S	E	D	Y	E	Y	E	N	D	I	D	Y	S	M	R	Y	D	E	S	C	E	C	I	F	F	O	R	T	Y	V	E	R	<p>Appearance Mary Purified Present Lord Festival Presentation Light World Candlemas Simeon Nunc Dimittis</p>
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News from Corstorphine Community Council

1) CORSTORPHINE CONNECTIONS UPDATE (LOW TRAFFIC NEIGHBOURHOOD - LTN)

The project started on 23 January 2023, with completion planned for about April 2023. At this time, the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) process is planned to commence, and an associated 6-month consultation period will go live, with the trial in place for up to 18 months.

Phase 1 will focus around improving access for walking, wheeling and cycling, particularly around the two primary schools. This will be achieved through reducing and calming through traffic at key locations. Phase 1 will also introduce new placemaking, including new seating, planters and hanging baskets as well as engagement on the development of artistic works to complement these changes.

Phase 1 will include -

- Continuation of the school streets vehicle restrictions at Corstorphine and Carrick Knowe Primary Schools.
- No vehicle or motorcycle access at junction of Featherhall Crescent North and South with Meadow Place Road. A 'pocket park' will be formed.
- Peak time bus gate (0800-1000 and 1445-1830 Monday to Friday inclusive) at northern end of Manse Road at junction with St John's Road; to be enforced by a camera.
- Northern end of Manse Road to become two-way. (No change to traffic light configuration.)
- No exit for motor vehicles and motorcycles on Featherhall Avenue at junction with St John's Road. Contraflow for cycles.
- Traffic calming on Dovecot Road.
- Repositioning of give-way calming on High Street.
- Three new uncontrolled crossing improvements on Saughton Road North.

Phase 2 measures, starting later in 2023, will see footway widening and crossing improvements introduced. These works will make it easier for people walking in the area and address some of the issues with narrow and sub-standard footways on key streets.

Refer to www.edinburgh.gov.uk/corstorphineconnections and submit any comments to edinburgh.consultation@projectcentre.co.uk

2) COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr. Beal has obtained 400 signatures for a Petition seeking a Post Office be set up to replace the one previously located in RS McColl. He will now contact the Post Office.

3) PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning permission is being sought to demolish the Snooker Hall in Manse Road and replace it with flats.

A change is being sought for the redevelopment of the former Woolworths site. The Developer claims that rising building costs are resulting in it being uneconomic to provide affordable housing units. Instead, it is proposed to make a donation towards other affordable housing in Corstorphine Ward.

4) OTHER

Tommy McLean made reference to the Warm Spaces being provided in Corstorphine.

Discussions are continuing with Friends of Gyle Park, the Parks Department and Scottish Water Contractors to rectify the issues created by the recent reinstatement work after sewage pipe work. Hopefully, a schedule of improvements will be agreed soon.

It was pointed out that in a Press Article on Church of Scotland Church Unions and Church Closures in Edinburgh, there was no reference to Corstorphine Churches, other than Carrick Knowe. Ian Kirkpatrick undertook to report developments.

The weekend market proposed in St Margaret's Park awaits the appointment of a Manager.

The Contract for the sale of the site of the former Corstorphine Public Hall has been signed, subject to planning approval being obtained for its development.

*Ian Kirkpatrick
Member of Corstorphine Community Council,
representing Corstorphine Churches Together*

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A Church Service for Pets

On Sunday afternoon, 30th January, Rev Derek Munn conducted a Messy Church service for pets - not that the pets were messy! [Messy Church is simply a way of being church for families and others. It is Christ-centred, for all ages, based on creativity, hospitality and celebration: see <https://www.messychurch.org.uk/>]

There was a pre-service gathering with bandana and bow tie making and paw print cards for the pets and owners, all of whom had a good time and there was no overexcitement nor any 'accidents'..... The service was supported by Inglis Vets (left, below), and gift bags from West Edinburgh Vets.

Congratulations to Derek who managed to keep everything together and bless all the pets.

Fiona Coutts



* * * * *

Bigger and Better

New for 2023, we now have a much-improved envelope for our Offerings each week in church. I was very pleased to have an envelope large enough to hold more than just coins. Yes, maybe it's a sign of inflation that a larger size is necessary, but it's now much easier to insert either a cheque or notes and then seal the envelope.

And sealing it is now also much improved. Instead of licking it shut as before, being careful to avoid a painful paper cut, we now have an easy peel-off strip. Another improvement is the envelope's appearance, because it now has an optimistic dove design in colour and a better layout of Bible text.



The text chosen is, in my opinion, an improvement on the two previous messages. The first one was in old English, with "hath" and an old-fashioned sentence structure. The second had a NOT and then a second negative in its sentence which, to my mind, conveyed a disapproving sentiment of rebuke.



By contrast, the new look positions a brief, positive Bible message in the middle of the envelope beside the dove. It follows that with additional information about the benefits of Gift Aid. And, on the reverse, we find a larger image of the church than previously - plus an encouraging message about your attendance and any service you might have missed. This information is printed in a much larger, more legible size.

Well done 121.

Sue Bell

* * * * *

Crossword Answers

1, Oceans. 2, Hophni. 3, Islamist. 4, Exhort. 5, Omar. 6, On spec. 7, Add all. 12, CBI. 14, Plotting. 15, Awe. 16, Vanish. 17, Starve. 18, Daub it. 20, Furrow. 21, Recede. 23, Cure.

DOWN:

8, Cross-examined. 9, Ash. 10, Apocrypha. 11, Sci-fi. 13, Typical. 16, Visited. 19, Offer. 22, No account. 24, RAC. 25, Sovereign Lord.

ACROSS:

Past Times in St Ninian's

25 years ago from the Quarterly, Spring 1998

The Banners in St Ninian's

Liz Wight wrote:

“In 1992 I was asked to do an art or craft activity with Step Inside, over a week or two, not long before Easter. First of all an appeal was made for interest in doing some craft work which could be displayed in the church, and reluctantly a small group formed. Then it was planning: to start off, pencils and paper were distributed, and the young people were asked to sketch things they associated with Easter. . . After the preliminary sketches, more detailed drawings began to appear and suggestions of colours. Yellow was agreed to be a good colour for Easter and Spring with daffodils symbolising trumpets of triumph and red tulips for Jesus' shed blood. The significance of the empty Cross, the discarded nails and crown of thorns was appreciated. The making of the details commenced with card shapes, silver paper, coloured ribbon, yellow crepe paper for the daffodils, red for the tulips and green drinking-straws for the stems. Strips of plywood were applied to the card backing for the Cross and actual nails taped down. The team enjoyed cutting out fur fabric rabbits and chickens. Once it was all glued, stitched or taped together, a light wooden frame was made to make it easy to hang. Mr Martin welcomed the finished work, and it was hung in the church for Easter Sunday. After some time it was feared that the paper and card might not stand up to the changes in temperature and humidity in the church building and a fabric version would be more permanent. It was for this reason, therefore, that I made a copy of the original version, but in fabrics. . .”



The Easter Banner

[30 years on, the 6 banners made by Liz Wight for the walls in the body of the Kirk have clearly stood the test of time.]

50 years ago from the Quarterly, April 1973

St Ninian's Young People (SNYP) - “Congratulations to the SNYP football team who have just won the Edinburgh Churches' League after a run of eight successive victories. SNYP market their own irresistible brand of power-play football, none of your continental baroque. In their eight games they have scored 45 goals. . . Questioned on the secret of their success, Graham Middlemist, generalissimo and mastermind of the side, gestured expansively and said, ‘*The boys, the boys.*’

We wish the team and their supporters every success in future tournaments.”

[Author's name or initials not appended]

ST. NINIAN'S PARISH CHURCH
GENERAL FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022
AND BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Budget 2023 £	Actual 2022 £
PAYMENTS		
Giving to Grow contributions	86,292	89,402
Congregational expenses		
Presbytery Dues	1,500	3,018
Pulpit Supply	420	420
Minister's Travel and Expenses	960	1,193
Local Salaries	30,439	36,301
Fabric - Renewals, Repairs and Maintenance	31,793	20,883
Hall Running Costs	16,110	9,559
Property Insurance	5,416	5,152
Manse Council Tax	3,661	3,136
Office Expenses	7,643	8,022
Other Expenses	8,348	9,239
Depreciation	224	227
	106,514	97,150
Total Payments	192,806	186,552
RECEIPTS other than Offerings		
Use Of Church Halls	27,500	29,023
Investment Income	5,513	4,134
One-off Donations	-	865
Other Receipts	1,138	2,274
Total	34,151	36,296
Amount to be met from Offerings	158,655	150,256
Offertry and Tax Recoveries		
Congregation Offerings	116,095	116,705
Tax Recovery on Gift Aid	25,541	24,908
	141,636	141,613
Surplus / (Deficit) to date	(17,019)	(8,643)
Before Legacies Received		19,214

For the year to 31 December 2022 there was a deficit (before legacies) of £8,643. This was lower than the position at end 2021 when there was a surplus of £9,915. The decrease of £18,558 was entirely due to higher expenditure in general and, in particular, increases in the following costs - Local salaries (£4,106), Printing (£1,934) and Fabric repairs and maintenance (£12,773).

When legacies are included the final position at end 2022 was a surplus of £10,571 (2021 - £12,414).

The Budget for 2023 is based on the assumption that income will fall slightly across all areas and there will be a general increase in expenditure, and in particular the costs of maintaining and running our premises.

Janice Reynolds (Treasurer)