



# St John's News

*The Newsletter of St John's Church of Scotland: Carluke*

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*St John's Church of Scotland: Carluke, is a registered Scottish Charity, No SC004066*

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***September 2018***



# Pastoral Letter

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Dear members

Have you noticed how eye-catching and vibrant the colours of autumn are? The trees change from green to fiery reds, oranges and yellows. This time of the year marks the beginning of a whole lot of things, including the new school year. The beginning of a school year brings changes for nursery and school pupils moving in to new classes, adjusting to rooms with unfamiliar teachers, pupils and new lessons. The transition for High school students moving on to new seasons of work, into apprenticeships or to advanced education can be exciting and challenging. Yet we know, that despite the changes in our individual and family lives, we have an unchanging and ever loving God.

We have had an active year of ministries and activities at St John's. As part of our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary activities, we hosted Rev Mike Frew, Rev Prof Will Storrar and the General Assembly Moderator, Right Reverend Susan Brown, who visited and led the worship on 6 May, 24 June and 26 August respectively. We look forward to Rev. Roy Cowieson preaching on 30 September, followed by Rev Alan Gibson on 21 October and Rev Miller Milloy on 18 November. To round-off the anniversary year, a family Ceilidh is planned for Friday, 7 December, at St Athanasius Community Hall. I do hope that many of us would be able to attend the events.

We are thankful for God's blessings on our congregation and for our active engagement in service and mission these past 175 years. In this anniversary year, we can look back and see how God has provided in the past and we should look ahead in trust into the unknown. Our God never fails, he is always walking beside us and he knows what the future holds. So we don't have to be fearful; we can be strong and courageous. God has a future planned out for us. Our purpose is not to recreate yesterday but to make today filled with the new workings of God. We can together sing:

*Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.  
Because He lives, all fear is gone.  
Because I know He holds the future;  
and life is worth the living, just because He lives.*

God bless you!

***Rev Dr Elijah Obinna***  
***Minister***

**Vestry Times - Wednesdays and Fridays 9:30 am - 12:30 pm**

# Diary: September to December 2018

## Regular Worship Times

Sunday Morning Prayers - 10:20 - 10:50 am, before morning service.

Normal Sunday Services are held at 11:00 am.

A short evening service, with prayers for healing, is normally held on the second Sunday of each month at 7:00 pm

A Praise Service is held on the last Sunday of the month, also at 7:00 pm.

A short, mid-week service is held on Thursdays at 10:30 am.

## *Forthcoming Special Events and Services*

**15 September:** Youth Praise Service

**16 September:** BB Enrolment Service

**30 September:** Evening Street Level Praise Service (*at Kirkton Church*)

**7 October:** Harvest Thanksgiving Service

**14 October:** Psalm Service

Evening Healing Service

**21 October:** Morning Worship led by **Rev Alan Gibson**

**28 October:** Evening Praise Service

**3 November:** National Day of Prayer

**11 November:** Remembrance Sunday

Evening Healing Service

**18 November:** Morning Worship led by **Rev Miller Milloy**

**25 November:** Carluke and district Praise the Lord!

**2 December:** Sacrament of Holy Communion (*Ordination of new Elders*)

**6 December:** Sacrament of Holy Communion (*at Thursday Service*)

**7 December:** Anniverary Family Ceilidh (*at St Athanasius' Church Hall*)

*Please watch Sunday bulletins, local press or visit the church website for and changes and more information as it becomes available.*

# LUPUS CHARITY COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 27<sup>th</sup>  
OCTOBER 2018  
STJOHNS  
CHURCH HALL  
CARLUKE  
10AM - 1.30PM

HOMEBAKING  
HOT FILLED  
ROLLS

PLEASE COME  
ALONG AND  
SUPPORT US



# Clydesdale Food Bank

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**The workload of the food bank continues to increase at a steady rate. At the end of August, the number of referrals for 2018 reached 697. This is 123 more than at the same date last year, and increase of 21%. In August, there were 93 referrals, which helped a total of 170 individuals, 54 single people, 12 couples and 25 families. As we go into winter we expect that number to continue to rise.**

The level of donations has stayed constant but due to the rise in the number of referrals, we have been spending £1100 to £1400/month just to make up the short fall. We are in the fortunate position of having healthy funds but spending in excess of our income is clearly not sustainable long term.

Thank you to everyone who supports us with physical donations, financially or by helping with deliveries. We appeal to others who have perhaps not realised the scale of the operation to join in feeding our hungry neighbours. There are trolleys in Tesco in Carluke and Lanark, in Morrisons, Lanark and a box in Scotmid, Carluke. If you could just add one or two items while out doing your shopping that would help. Alternatively, drop donations off to the food bank at 66 High Street any morning, 10-12 noon. There are standing order and gift aid forms in the vestibule if you would like to make a regular financial donation. If you can't see them, just ask one of the door team.

*LB*

# Holiday Club 2018

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## **Helpful Holly's Hospital Holiday Club.**

This was a year of lots of “firsts.”

On the Saturday before the start of Holiday Club week, we ran a coffee morning to allow the families to come along to meet some of the team and to register if they had not already done so on-line. Because the Sunday service was not in St John's, the team was able to set up the hall on the Saturday afternoon.

This year we focused on the healing miracles of Jesus. Each day the children heard about a different miracle and learned about faith, prayer and the importance of knowing Jesus as their friend and saviour. 184 children were registered over the week – first time it had been so high. On a couple of days, 144 children attended (another first) and the lowest attendance was 123. Over 90 had perfect attendance. Having so many children was challenging but they behaved very well and responded well to the teaching and to the challenges. They had a huge amount of fun in the process. It is always lovely to see the littlest ones grow in confidence and join in with the songs and games as the week goes by.

The Friday evening parents' night was held in the church for the first time due the numbers involved and that was well attended. The week finished as always with Holiday Club Sunday when we were able to share some of what had been happening with the congregations.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way especially to Lesley Ewing, aka Helpful Holly. (Could a few more of you think about joining us next year? – we have a great theme planned!)

*LB*

# St John's 175

**Our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations continued with a three day exhibition of photographs and artefacts from our church history.**



From 21 to 23 August, literally hundreds of items, dating from late 1800s to modern times, were on display for anyone to browse with a cup of tea and shortbread.

Reminiscing was obligatory with stories about Carluke town and its people across the years being shared amongst friends. It was thought that over 150 people attended across all the sessions. Dr Ann's Chief's Chair carved in wood took pride of place amongst newspaper clippings, pantomime programmes, oil paintings, silverware and sepia and colour photographs.

All this would not have been possible without the dedication of Sandra Peat and Iris Nelson to the task, so on behalf of the whole Church, the biggest thank-you goes to them both.



*HJ*



**These and more photos of the exhibition can be seen on the church website: [www.carluke-stjohns.org.uk/StJohns175/Photo/index.shtm](http://www.carluke-stjohns.org.uk/StJohns175/Photo/index.shtm)**

# St John's 175

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## **It's been a memorable few months in the life of St John's!**

In May, we welcomed the Rev Mike Frew back to the pulpit, his first visit since leaving St John's in 2005. In June, the Reverend Professor Will Storrar was back to the pulpit, his first visit since our 150th Anniversary back in 1993. In the course of his sermon, he recalled an occasion, during the early years of his ministry in St John's, when he visited a member of the congregation who lived in Hamilton Street. She was 87 years old, but could recall as a young girl, seeing an elderly gentleman, with a long white beard, walking slowly up Hamilton Street. That gentleman was the Reverend John White, the very first minister of St John's, whose ministry in Carluke lasted 63 years. Mr Storrar went on to say that 175 years is a long time or is it? The lady in question went on to reminisce about all the subsequent ministers, a living memory spanning 175 years. The conversation at that time between the minister and his parishioner brought the past right into the present day.

At the close of the service, Will and Joanna were presented with Church of Scotland tartan gifts. Following the service, a buffet lunch was held in the hall, giving them an opportunity to catch up with many of the congregation.

The celebrations continued into August with a three day exhibition of photographs, some dating back to the church's earliest days. The exhibition was well received by visitors, including some from Australia and England, who were able to browse and enjoy a cup of tea and shortbread. Reminiscing was obligatory, with stories about Carluke and its people across the years being shared amongst friends. Dr Ann Jackson's Chief's Chair, hand carved in wood, from her time as a medical missionary in Africa, took pride of place amongst newspaper clippings, pantomime programs, oil paintings, silverware and dozens of sepia and technicolour photographs. My thanks to the Elliott and Jorgensen family for their invaluable assistance in staging the exhibition. Thanks also to the shortbread bakers and you, the people of St John's, who loaned photographs and supported the exhibition.

The first communion service of the Free Church, which was to become St John's, was held on Sunday 27 August 1843 in a local inn. It was,

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therefore, a very special day for St John's on Sunday 26 August, 175 years later, when we held our Anniversary service. It was made even more special by the attendance of the Right Reverend Susan Brown, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. She preached to an extended congregation, including visitors and their families from



**Rt Rev Susan Brown, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland with our minister, Rev Dr Elijah Obinna.**

Crawforddyke Primary School choir who performed during the service, the 1<sup>st</sup> Carluke Scout Group and 3<sup>rd</sup> Carluke Boys' Brigade. Grace Notes, provided additional items of praise. It was also an occasion to recognise the long service of thirteen of our current elders, including Frances Cadzow and Sandra Peat, the first women to be ordained as elders in St John's over 40 years ago. The combined service of those recognised with certificates presented by the Moderator totalled 641 years.

It was a memorable, uplifting, church and community occasion, enjoyed by all in attendance despite the dreich weather on the day. In honour of the occasion, our own Minister, donned his kilt and sporran! The Moderator was presented with a basket of Carluke's very own "Jam &

Ham" produce as a token of appreciation of her visit.

# St John's 175 (Continued)

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Following the service, the congregation and many visitors, adjourned to the halls to enjoy a splendid buffet lunch. Thanks are due to Rae Warnock and her band of helpers who organise the buffet lunches and to the folks who cheerfully provide the cakes, not forgetting the ever popular meringues!

To mark the anniversary, Jean Battison had designed a beautiful, outstanding banner, embroidered by herself, Margaret Mackie and Joan Reid, depicting doves, branches and our church, St John's.



**The New banner**

The banner, inscribed with the words “*Passing the Spirit from Age to Age 1843 – 2018*”, will hang permanently in the sanctuary.

The celebrations will continue over the coming months, with a return to the pulpit by other past ministers:

**30 September - Rev Roy Cowieson**

**21 October - Rev Alan Gibson**

**18 November - Rev Miller Milloy.**

Bringing the celebrations to a conclusion, a family ceilidh, with a live ceilidh band, will be held on Friday 7 December in St Athanasius Community Hall. Tickets priced £5 for

adults (children free ) will include a finger buffet.

*IN*

**A gallery of photos from the service is being prepared for the church website. Visit [www.carluke-stjohns.org.uk/StJohns175](http://www.carluke-stjohns.org.uk/StJohns175) for further details.**

# Long Service Awards

As part of the celebrations at the service to mark 175 years of worship in St John's, 15 Elders were presented with Long Service Certificates.

The Elders presented with their certificates were:

**48 years service** - John Stratton.

**46 years service** - Jim McLaren.

**45 years service** - Jim Allan.

**43 years service** - Jim Braynion and Alex Forrest.

**41 years service** - John Battison, Frances Cadzow and Sandra Peat.

*(Frances and Sandra were the first women Elders in St John's)*

**40 years service** - Margaret Fleming, Anne Forrest, Dr Ann Jackson and Ken Mackie.

**30 years service** - Greta Stratton.

In addition to the above, two Elders, who were unable to be present were awarded certificates in their absence: Joe Hill (**53 years**) and Dan McLaren (**50 years**)

All were congratulated by the Minister, Rev Dr Elijah Obinna and the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Rt Rev Susan Brown on their combined total of 641 years of service to God!



**Rt Rev Susan Brown, congratulates those receiving their long-service certificates.**

# Roll of Honour

2018 is a year of significant anniversaries, not least of which is the passing of 100 years since the end of World War 1. With the centenary of the date of cessation of hostilities now approaching, it is appropriate to take a closer look at the plaque in our church entrance vestibule, located to the right as you enter.

There, 19 men are named. While many histories and pages will have been written before about these men, and also of others who served and survived, it is equally certain that some of their information (now readily available from Internet resources) will still hold both our interest and our appreciation in these times.



Immediately apparent is the how young they were, with Boy 2<sup>nd</sup> Class James Easton McFarlane as the youngest of all who died at the age of just 17 years. James is also thought to be the youngest of all the serviceman commemorated on Carluke's main War Memorial. It is also apparent that hardly a month would have passed during the conflict without another death notification at St John's. For our church, and our town, this was indeed a significant period of loss and mourning. Reviewing the casualty numbers interred or remembered at each cemetery is truly staggering – the Menin Gate at Ypres records 54,611 names alone.

Our duty as the generations who have followed the Great War, and all other wars, is that

*We will remember them.*

*ME*

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*The names on the plaque are listed below. Grateful thanks to Dr Moira Elliott who researched the information about each man.*

**Pte George AGNEW**

Regiment: 1/6 Seaforth Highlanders  
Born: Carluke  
Died: 21/03/1918. Killed in action

**Co Sgt Major George CAVAN**

Regiment: 9th Highland Light Infantry  
Born: Beith, Ayrshire  
Died: 13/04/1918. Died of wounds

**Pte John CROSSEN**

Regiment: Lanarkshire Yeomanry  
Born: Carluke  
Died: 27/12/1915. Killed in action

**Pte Peter CROSSEN**

Regiment: Machine Gun Corps  
Born: Carluke  
Died: 03/07/1917. Killed in action

**Pte Robert FRAME**

Regiment: 1st/8th Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)  
Born: Carluke  
Died: 29/07/1918

**Sgt George McDonald HAMILTON**

Regiment: 2nd Otago Battalion  
Born: Carluke  
Died: 16/02/1918. Killed in action

**Pte Robert Gibson JARVIE**

Regiment: Queens Own Cameron Highlanders  
Born: Carluke  
Died 27/08/1917. Died of wounds

**2nd Lt Thomas Russell JARVIE**

Regiment: Royal Flying Corps  
Killed 10/09/1917. Age 26

**Lt James McLaren MORTON**

Regiment: 2nd Canadians  
Born: Carluke  
Died: 03/05/1917

**Lance Cpl John MULHOLLAND**

Regiment: 1st Scots Guards  
Born: Belfast  
Died 31/07/1917. Killed in action

**Pte Alexander MUNCIE**

Regiment: Highland Light Infantry  
Born: Braidwood  
Died: 11/01/1917. Killed in action

**Pte James McFARLANE**

Regiment: 8th Royal Scots  
Died: 11/07/1917. Died of wounds

**Boy 2nd Class James Easton McFARLANE**

Regiment: Royal Navy  
Died: 6/10/1918

**Pte Robert MacNIVEN**

Regiment: Australian Infantry  
Died: Between 06/08/1915 and 09/08/1915.  
Killed in action

**Sgt Arthur RAMAGE, DCM, MM and Bar**

Regiment: 12th Highland Light Infantry  
Born: Carluke  
Died: 01/08/1917. Killed in action

**Pte Felix SHIELDS**

Regiment: 7th Highland Light Infantry  
Born: Carluke  
Died: 26/08/1918. Died of wounds

**2nd Lt (Rev) Andrew STEWART MA, MC**

Regiment: Northumberland Fusiliers  
Born: Carluke  
Died: 20/09/1917. Killed in action

**Pte Robert Forest Jack STEWART**

Regiment: Lanarkshire Yeomanry  
Born: Carluke  
Died: 08/10/1918

**Pte William WATSON**

Regiment: 5/6 Scottish Rifles  
Born: Carluke  
Died: 23/10/1918

# Christian Aid News

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**In what's said to be the worst rains in more than 100 years, over a million people have been affected by the unprecedented flooding in Kerala, southern India, with the loss of more than 400 lives during the monsoon season.**

Christian Aid estimates that Kerala's floods and landslides have left around 200,000 unable to return home for at least six months, Even among houses that were not completely destroyed, many are now filled with mud, vegetation and rubbish, with collapsed roofs and walls. Many people have lost everything they had.

Right now, Christian Aid and its local partners are on the ground responding to urgent needs of shelter, food and clean water for more than 12,000 people. **With your help, Christian Aid can reach many more.**

Please, if you can, donate to the Kerala Floods Appeal, so that Christian Aid can reach survivors throughout Kerala with essential supplies , for example:

**Hygiene kits** - To protect people from water-borne diseases like cholera.

**Shelter** - Our local partner CASA is providing shelter kits.

**Food** - Dry food rations will be needed as families leave the relief camps.

**Tools for work** - Agricultural tools, seeds and fertiliser are needed.

**Water** - Water filters and 100,000 chlorine tablets will be distributed.

You can donate on-line or send your donation to Christian Aid (Scotland), First Floor, Sycamore House, 290 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4JR

**CLIMATE CHANGE** - The day before the Moderator preached in St John's, she joined Christian Aid supporters on their annual Power Walk at the UK's largest onshore wind farm at Whitelee Windfarm in Renfrewshire. Walkers were not only raising funds for Christian Aid, but also aiming to raise awareness and highlight the issues surrounding climate change.

**CHRISTMAS** - This year's Christian Aid Carol Concert will be held in St John's on Sunday 9 December at 7.00pm.

*IN*

# Twinning Update

In July our completed congregational profile was sent to the Church of Scotland World Mission Council Twinning Department. It was gratifying to have had it accepted and described as “full, informative and good to read”.

In our profile we asked to be considered to twin with a congregation in the Czech Republic. The profile has now been sent to Secretary of the Europe Committee and the Church of Scotland contact in the Partner Church; The Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren (ECCB) so that they can identify a potential congregation for St John's for the Twining. The chosen congregation will be asked to submit their congregational profile for us to consider. We now wait to see what transpires.

Everyone in our congregation can get involved in one way or another with this twinning project, but first and foremost, as we continue the selection process, I would ask for your **prayerful support**. We should remember this is God’s plan for us as part of His church and we must listen to what He has to say to us and in which way He will guide us.

AR

## Smillie Footcare

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### About me

Hello - I am a foot health practitioner with a mobile foot clinic, visiting patients in their own homes in and around Lanark and Carluke (10 mile radius)

### Treatments Available

Callus/Hard Skin removal  
Corns  
Cracked Heals  
Nail cutting/reduction  
Diabetic patients  
Ingrown toenail



Anne Smillie MCFHP/MAFHP  
email - [smilliefootcare@outlook.com](mailto:smilliefootcare@outlook.com)



THE SMAE INSTITUTE

# The Murrays

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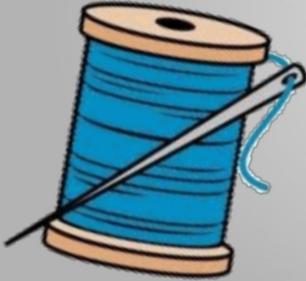
**After many years living and working in Thailand, the Murray family is on the move!**

Nok's Spouse Visa to allow her to accompany Scott to the UK for up to a year was refused, after a wait of 3.5 months on a technicality - The application had been completed incorrectly. They decided to correct and re-apply, but as of August, they were still waiting for a decision. They have heard that a second application could take longer than a first, so are set for a long wait.

This means that the Murray's plans to visit to the UK will need to be changed. Scott and the 3 children returned at the end of July, as planned, with Shane returning to the US for his second year in the Moody Aviation Program in August. Nok will need to wait for the decision on her second Visa application before her travel to the UK can be arranged. Meanwhile, she is looking into OMF work she can help out with.

Ray required 3 C grades in his AP exams for University entrance. In the end, he gained an A in Psychology, a B in Calculus and a C in English. Congratulations, Ray! He will now start his University course in September. Initially, he had selected a course at Stirling, but now feels that the course on offer at Napier (Edinburgh) is more suited to him. He was waiting to hear through clearing, if his change of direction was successful. Ray is classed as a "Home" student and will not have to pay tuition fees. the SAAS will also provide a student loan as to other Scottish students.

# LizBeeSewing



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