



Lochgilphead Parish Church

# The LINK

Volume 15 Issue 3

May/June 2017

[www.lpchurch.co.uk](http://www.lpchurch.co.uk)

Scottish Charity  
SCO 16311



## MESSAGE FROM THE MANSE

May, 2017.

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter, many in our congregation seem to be going through a difficult time. Some are coping with bereavement, others with illness, some with the breakdown of a relationship. Loss, in some shape or form, is at the heart of each situation. With that sense of loss comes the necessary adjustment to a life which may be very different to the one that up until now has been known. It is not always easy to deal with that change but, somehow, we always seem to get the strength we need.

The Psalmist tells us that God is our refuge and strength, someone to whom we can turn and in whom we will find our strength renewed but those are just empty words unless we turn to God and experience His strength for ourselves.

Those of us who have planted seeds in trays and who have taken care of them are now seeing the benefits as they become established. However, without water and heat, they would never have germinated. We had to give them what they needed in order to see signs of growth. Now that those early signs of growth have begun, we have to be extra vigilant to make sure that the seeds grow and develop into healthy young plants.

Our faith has much in common with seeds. If we don't do anything to encourage germination, and growth thereafter, it will come to nothing and will be of no comfort at all to us in times of trouble. If, on the other hand, we practice our faith by meeting for worship, by feeding on God's Word at home and by praying, we will see a deepening of our faith and signs of new growth beginning. If we neglect that new growth, our faith will die back. It needs encouragement and it needs commitment on our part to become stronger.

We can depend on our God in every situation in which we find ourselves but to know that and to have that assurance takes time and it takes effort on our part. Those of us who were in the Guides know that the Motto was always Be Prepared. By practicing our faith now, our experience of God will prepare us for all eventualities in the sense that we will know our God, we will know He can be trusted and we will know that in Him, we will find a refuge and a source of strength.

Don't leave it to chance. Our relationship with God is far too important. He stands at the door and knocks.

Best wishes,  
Hilda C.Smith

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## GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE & INCOME SUMMARY 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST MARCH 2017

The Session has agreed that the members of the congregation should be made aware of the finances of our Church on an ongoing basis, therefore the detailed Income & Expenditure Account for the General Fund, which is used for the everyday business of the Church, is shown for the first quarter of 2017. (You will receive further reports of income and expenditure in future Links.)

You will see from this that we are running at a loss of at least £1000 each month which is reflected in the Budget for 2017. Copies of the 2017 Budget and the 2016 Accounts are available from Edna Armstrong and she is happy to answer any queries you may have (Tel: 602600) as, indeed, am I.

We cannot use monies raised in the Church Cafe to meet the deficit as these are raised specifically to fund the next phase of the Project and essential repairs and maintenance of the Church buildings which continue to be very costly.

The Session would be very grateful for a solution to our financial difficulties and would welcome any help to resolve this unsustainable situation.

At the ASM on 9th April, Edna Armstrong, our Gift Aid Convener, gave a very detailed report on our present finances and encouraged everyone to review their regular giving which may go some way towards reducing our deficit. Please consider this.

If you do not already have a Deed of Covenant and are a taxpayer, this can easily be arranged and would also enable the Church to get an extra 20% from your offering without any cost to yourself. We need to work together towards making our Church solvent.

Thank you so much for the support you give.

Mary MacDonald, Interim Treasurer

### MIDWEEK PRAY. PRAISE. REFUEL.



Are you searching for the meaning of life?  
Do you wonder where Christianity fits in your life?  
Would you like to worship in a less formal way?  
Or are you just unable to get to Church on a Sunday?

**The Monthly Midweek Reflection could be for you.**

Once a month, at 1.00pm for 15 - 20 minutes...

A time of calm in the midst of a busy week  
Midweek Reflection is a relaxed, informal 'mini' service lasting no more than 20 minutes, which offers a time for reflection, song and prayer.

**Wednesday 31 May, Wednesday 21 June  
In Lochgilphead Parish Church**

## PENTECOSTAL LUNCH

**Sunday June 4th**

Join together in the hall after the service  
to celebrate the Church's birthday.

There is no cost involved.  
Just bring along some sandwiches, cakes or  
savories to share with others.



## **Lochgilphead Parish Church**

### Summary of Income & Expenditure as at 31st March 2017

	£	£
<b>Income</b>		
Donations	250.00	
Gift Aid	0.00	
Gift Aid Tax Received	0.00	
Open Plate	818.81	
FWO	4,739.00	
Fund Raising	1,001.19	
Wedding & Funerals	0.00	
Ret Offering	0.00	
Pulpit Ref	0.00	
Hall	0.00	
Interest	15.75	
L & Work	305.00	
Misc.	0.00	
Manse Rental	475.00	
Transfers	0.00	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>7,604.75</b>

<b>Expenditure</b>		
Ministries Mission	5,464.50	
Minister Travel	0.00	
Appeals	0.00	
Minister Phone	224.42	
Pulpit Travel	14.00	
Pulpit Supply	110.00	
Revenue / Customs	0.00	
Insurance & Dues	1,486.68	
Heat & Light	1,630.31	
Property	454.16	
Council Tax	795.00	
Retiring Offering	0.00	
Stationry & Pubs	84.93	
Adverts	0.00	
Organist	0.00	
Church Officer	0.00	
Hall	0.00	
Misc.	423.00	
Float	125.00	
Misc	0.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>10,812.00</b>

<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>(3,207.25)</b>
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**LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH  
COFFEE MORNING  
10.00am-12 noon  
in the hall  
Saturday 27 May**

Offers of help, donations of home baking and raffle prizes will be most appreciated.



# PRESBYTERY MATTERS

## Letter from Marilyn Shedden, Moderator of Argyll Presbytery

Dear Friends in Argyll congregations,

It was one of my predecessors who first wrote an Easter message to the congregations within the Presbytery of Argyll. I am glad and privileged to follow that example. However recent events have challenged me to think not only of the joy of Easter but also the anguish and suffering that precedes it.

As we journey as individuals and as a Presbytery on our Lenten path, I am always reminded of just how much we have. We may make a decision to give up something we really enjoy during Lent - usually chocolate or alcohol. But, with the best of intentions, does that really affect our life in any significant way? Will we suffer pangs of hunger or thirst without a bar of chocolate or a glass of wine? Is this really sacrificial giving, or is it tokenism?

As the horror of the famine in East Africa unfolds before us we can barely take in the suffering the people are experiencing. Twenty million people across Somalia, South Sudan, Nigeria and Yemen are in urgent need of food. Millions are dying and over one million children are acutely malnourished. Across Africa the worst food crisis since 1985 looms for fifty million people.

We hunger for justice and freedom to come to those who are hungry simply for food. The problem seems beyond our control, and we feel we can do nothing. But surely that is not an option for us who are commissioned by Jesus to show his love in this world.

I wonder if, as congregations throughout Argyll, we might consider giving up something extra this Lent. I would like to suggest that each congregation finds a way to make a donation to UNHCR or Disasters Emergency Committee. It would also be good if each treasurer informed the Presbytery of the amount sent, thus giving us a total of the contribution from Argyll. If you feel this would be something you would like to do as an individual (and especially if you are a tax payer), may I suggest using the following link for your donation: <https://www.dec.org.uk/appeals>.

My sincere thanks for giving this your consideration.

May the one who journeyed through the desert for us and who gave up everything, bless you and walk with you till you meet him again on Easter morning.

With every blessing,

Marilyn

Marilyn Shedden

Moderator of Argyll Presbytery, March 15th 2017

## Report on Presbytery meeting 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Rev Lindsay Schluter of Barra is now the convenor for Property committee.

Dealing with dementia, provisionally booked for Sat 29<sup>th</sup> April, 10.00 - 4.00 Tarbert village Hall. Cost £5 each, take a packed lunch.

A training day for elders is to be run by 121 in Tarbert in June.

A civic prayer breakfast is being held in partnership with the Roman Catholic and the Episcopal Dioceses of Argyll & the Isles. If this attracts general interest similar events will be held across Argyll.

Rev Roderick Campbell held a series of trainings on three Saturdays on Leading Worship. Kirstin Thompson and Margaret Jacobsen attended.

The Churches of Kilmun St Munn's and Strone and Ardentinn are to be United.

The Presbytery Moderator has been visiting High Schools and has conducted worship in several churches in vacancy. With Rev Steve Fulcher, she is to meet representatives of Work Place Chaplaincy Scotland.



## CHURCH MUGS

We are delighted to announce that our Jolomo Church Mugs will be on sale again soon. They are at present on order and should be with us at the beginning of June.



The mugs were an extremely popular item previously and we hope will be again. They are Dunoon mugs, made of fine porcelain, printed with a view of the front green on one side and of the church on the other. These views are taken from two paintings, one of which is hanging in the church, painted for us by the artist John Morrison (Jolomo). The mugs will be on sale at a cost of £14.00 each.

**If you wish to preorder the mugs, please complete the order form and return it to Ian or Margaret Davidson, 7 Carnasserie Place, Lochgilphead, PA31 8TW, Tel: 01546 603784, along with your remittance.**

The mugs will later be on display in the church hall and hopefully other outlets in the town. They will also be available through the church website – [www.lpchurch.co.uk](http://www.lpchurch.co.uk)



## DATE OF MEETINGS

1 June

29 June

In the hall

## FUN, FOOD AND WORSHIP

**Exciting Crafts, Stories, Songs & Activities**

Why not come along and give it a try.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

**DON'T MISS IT!**



## NEOLAIA YOUTH GROUP

Neolaia" is the Greek word for youth and the group is open to all young people within the secondary school age range, with or without an existing or previous church connection.

**Held every Sunday night from 7-9 pm at Ardmore, 4 Kilmory Road, Lochgilphead, PA31 8SZ and led by Fiona Cameron, Youth Leader (07399413654) and the Rev Hilda Smith (01546 602238).**

## LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH GUILD

The Guild has had an enjoyable season.

Most nights we had 15 people attending but 2nd November was the busiest with 18 people attending.



**SUNDAY JUNE 18TH**

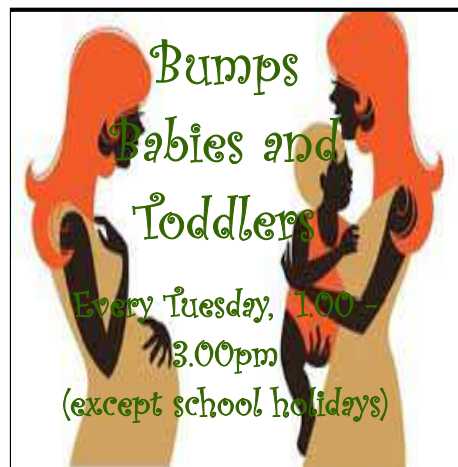
**at Ormsary Beach (2.00pm - 5.00pm)**

We welcome any member from Church, Messy Church or the Bumps, Babies and Toddlers Group, plus their families and friends to join us on the picnic. Make your way out to Ormsary Beach for an afternoon of fun, food and frolics.

**Bring your own picnic and drinks!**

## THEME - BE BOLD, BE STRONG

**Council Rally  
Wednesday 7 June**



## Let's get Knitting!

We meet fortnightly in various venues to knit, chat, laugh, learn new techniques and partake of a light supper.

New members, both experienced and beginners are welcome to come along and join us.

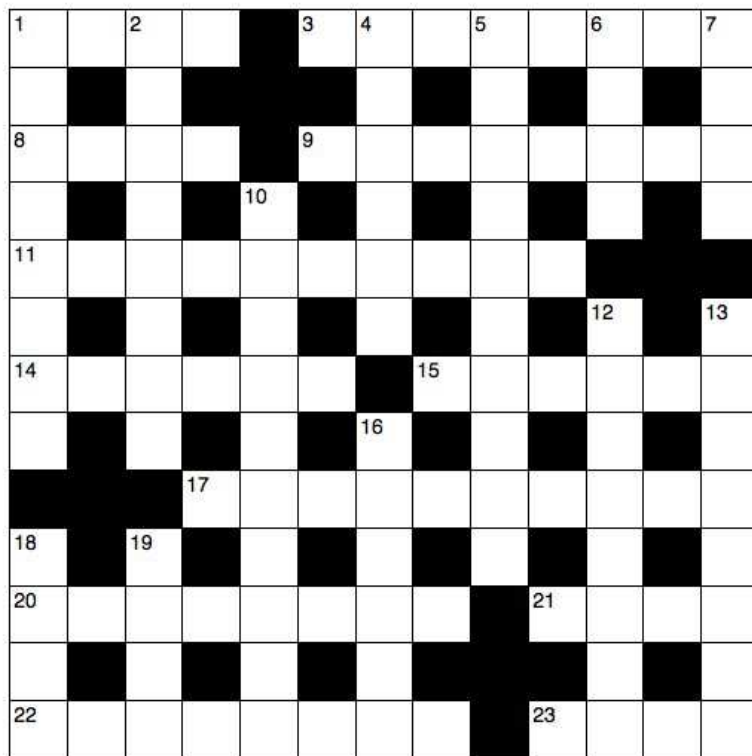
For more information contact Margaret on 01546 603784.



**Drop In Café  
Every  
Wednesday  
10.00am to  
3.30pm**

We really need some more volunteers to help in the cafe for a couple of hours once or twice a month.

## Crossword



### Across

- 1 Infant (Luke 2:12) (4)
- 3 Luis must (anag.) (8)
- 8 What Jesus called the devil (John 8:44) (4)
- 9 'My God, my God, why have you — me?' (Matthew 27:46) (8)
- 11 Anglican form of church government (10)
- 14 'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like — ' (Isaiah 40:31) (6)
- 15 Ministers of religion (6)
- 17 Make stronger (1 Thessalonians 3:13) (10)
- 20 Devoutness (1 Timothy 2:2) (8)
- 21 The father of Jesse (Ruth 4:22) (4)
- 22 Pool where Jesus healed a man who had been an invalid for 38 years (John 5:2) (8)
- 23 '[Jesus] said to them, " — here and keep watch"' (Mark 14:34) (4)

### Down

- 1 Follower of Christ (Acts 16:1) (8)
- 2 One of the punishments endured by Paul (2 Corinthians 6:5) (8)
- 4 Soldiers (Exodus 14:9) (6)
- 5 Scholarly study of melody, harmony and rhythm (10)
- 6 'I am God, and there is none — me' (Isaiah 46:9) (4)
- 7 'And how can they preach unless they are — ?' (Romans 10:15) (4)
- 10 Favourable reception (1 Timothy 1:15) (10)
- 12 Hip orbit (anag.) (8)
- 13 End of life (Isaiah 22:14) (5,3)
- 16 'About midnight the sailors — they were approaching land' (Acts 27:27) (6)
- 18 He married Jezebel (1 Kings 16:30–31) (4)
- 19 'According to your great compassion — out my transgressions' (Psalm 51:1) (4)

### Breakable

There was a very gracious lady who was posting an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country... 'Is there anything breakable in here?' asked the postal clerk.

'Only the Ten Commandments,' answered the lady.

### Money

There is the story of a minister who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: 'I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building programme. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets.'

### The quick way to get rid of mice

Three churches in town were overrun with mice. The minister of the first church trapped them, thereby starting a bitter row among his congregation about showing compassion towards God's creation.

The minister of the second church humanely trapped the mice and then set them free outside. Three days later the mice were back.

The minister of the third church humanely trapped the mice and then carefully baptised them. They have not been seen since.

### WHY WORRY?!

There are only two things to worry about. Either you are well, or you are sick. If you are well, then there is nothing to worry about.

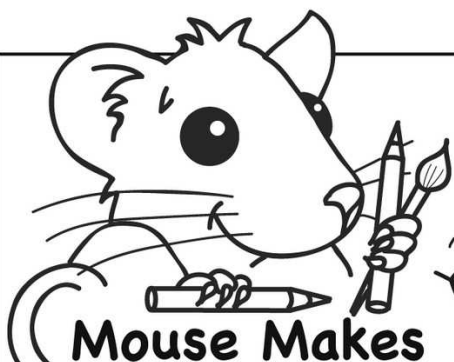
But if you are sick, there are two things to worry about - either you will get well or you will die.

If you get well, there is nothing to worry about.

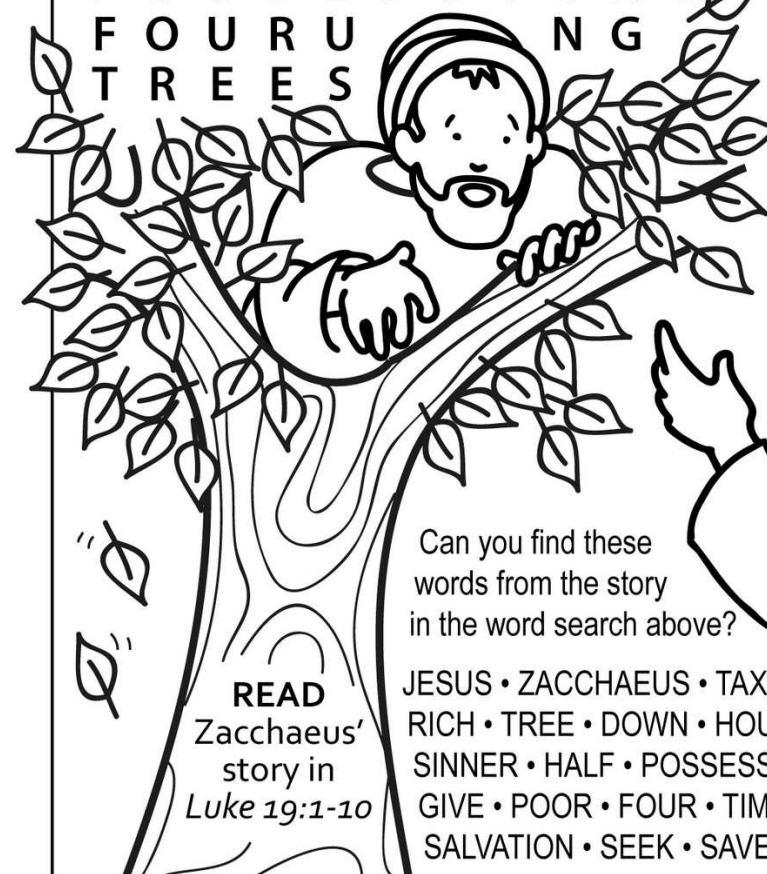
If you die, there are only two things to worry about - either you will go to heaven or hell.

If you go to heaven, there is nothing to worry about.

If you go to hell, you'll be so damn busy shaking hands with friends, you won't have time to worry .....



S E E K L O S T S  
 I G F O Z H M S A V E  
 N I O T A X H A L F  
 N V U T C G O D V A J  
 E E R I C H U Z A D E  
 R X G M H T S I T O S  
 P F E A W E I W U  
 P O S S E S S I O N S  
 F O U R U N G  
 T R E E S



## The Man in the Tree

With Jesus passing through the town  
A crowd of people gathered round,  
But as Zacchaeus could not see,  
He ran ahead and climbed a tree.

Jesus stopped as he passed by,  
And saw Zacchaeus there up high,  
Said, "Dear Zacchaeus, come with me,  
I'm going to your house for tea".

Zacchaeus climbed  
down to the floor,  
And walked with Jesus  
to his door,  
Amazed the Lord would  
want to be  
With such a liar and  
cheat as he.

Zacchaeus, sorry for  
all he had done,  
Said, "Lord, I'll pay  
back everyone,  
Half I own I give  
to the poor,  
Those I've cheated get  
four times more."

Jesus said,  
"Today you're saved!"  
Zacchaeus replied,  
"May God be praised!"



**READ**  
Zacchaeus'  
story in  
Luke 19:1-10

Can you find these  
words from the story  
in the word search above?

JESUS • ZACCHAEUS • TAX  
 RICH • TREE • DOWN • HOUSE  
 SINNER • HALF • POSSESSIONS  
 GIVE • POOR • FOUR • TIMES • GOD  
 SALVATION • SEEK • SAVE • LOST



# Rotas for May/June 2017

	<b>Door Duty</b>	<b>Prayers</b>	<b>Flowers</b> (Contact - E Armstrong)	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee Duty</b> (Contact - M. Davidson)
<b>May</b> 7th	D & R Bowen	F Cameron	Chris Stevenson	Communion	S Morrison & T Cameron
14th	TBA	Jim Morrison	Catherine Ferguson	F Cameron	F Elder & L Mochrie
21st	M Jacobsen & I McMillan	May Taylor	Margaret Purdie	M Jacobsen	A Pearson & E MacCallum
28th	J & R Morrison	M Davidson	Margaret Davidson	Jim Morrison	S Stankey & M Jacobsen
<b>June</b> 4th	S & M Taylor	M Jacobsen	Sandra Morrison	Sandy Taylor	M & S MacFadyen
11th	C Gilmour & A Hunter	Ian Davidson	TBA	Fiona Elder	I MacArthur & E Munro
18th	M MacFadyen & E Munro	Sandy Taylor	TBA	M MacFadyen	J MacAulay & I MacMillan
25th	M MacDonald & I MacArthur	F Cameron	TBA	M MacDonald	I & M Davidson
<b>July</b> 2nd	I & M Davidson	Jim Morrison	TBA	Ian Davidson	D & R Bowen

***If you are unable to carry out any of these duties please arrange a replacement.***

## Services (all at 11.00am except where stated)

May 7th	Rev. Hilda Smith, Communion
May 14th	Rev. Hilda Smith
May 21st	Rev Hilda Smith
May 28th	Rev. Hilda Smith
June 4th	Rev. Hilda Smith
June 11th	Rev Hilda Smith
June 18th	Rev. Hilda Smith
June 25th	Rev. Hilda Smith
July 2nd	Rev. Hilda Smith

## Other Events

Every Tuesday (except school holidays)	Bumps, Babies and Toddlers 1.00 - 3.00pm
Every Wednesday	Drop in Cafe, 10.00am - 3.30pm
May 3rd, 17th & 31st June 14th & 28th	Knit and Natter Group, 7.30pm
June 1st & 29th	Messy Church, 4.00pm—6.00pm
May 27th	Coffee Morning
May 31st June 21st	Midweek Reflection

## CROSSWORD ANSWERS

**ACROSS:** 1, Baby, 3, Stimulus, 8, Liar, 9, Forsaken, 11, Episcopacy, 14, Eagles, 15, Clergy, 17, Strengthen, 20, Holiness, 21, Obed, 22, Bethesda, 23, Stay.  
**DOWN:** 1, Believer, 2, Beatings, 4, Troops, 5, Muscology, 6, Like, 7, Sent, 10, Acceptance, 12, Prohibit, 13, Dying day, 16, Sensed, 18, Anab, 19, Blot.

## ..... and for your diary

June 4th	Pentecostal Lunch
June 7th	Guild Council Rally
June 18th	Church Picnic
July 22nd	Guild Summer Coffee Morning

## Who's Who in LPC

Minister	Rev Hilda C Smith	01546 602238
Session Clerk	Sandy Taylor	01546 606218
Interim Treasurer	Mary MacDonald	01546 602087
Gift Aid Convenor	Edna Armstrong	01546 602600
Roll Keeper	Frances Fleming	01546 602270
Fabric Convenor	Ian Davidson	01546 603784
Social Convenor	Margaret Davidson	01546 603784
Safeguarding Co-ordinators	Cathleen MacDonald	01546 603108
Worship Group	Margaret Jacobsen Rev. Hilda Smith Ian Davidson Kirsten Thompson	01546 606914 01546 602238 01546 603784
Finance Committee	Mary MacDonald Edna Armstrong Elma Munro	01546 602087 01546 602600 01546 602857
Guild Contacts	Anne Hunter Jessie Cranston May Taylor Chris Stevenson Nannie Ward Mary MacDonald	01546 603141 01546 602866 01546 606218 01546 600259 01546 602343 01546 602087



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