

The Springfield Cambridge Record



April 2022

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COVID UPDATE



The Kirk Session agreed on 15/02/22 to some changes (highlighted in red) to procedures around attending Services in Springfield Cambridge Church which took effect from Sunday 20/02/22:

- On the advice of the Scottish Government the Church of Scotland's Covid Group is encouraging everyone to undertake a Lateral Flow Test before coming to Church for whatever reason;
- Hand sanitiser should be used on entry to and exit from the building;
- Face coverings must be worn(unless medically exempt);
- Track and trace details will no longer be required with the exception of those remaining for Tea and Coffee after the Service;
- Worshippers will no longer be shown to their pews;
- Worshippers may choose to sit anywhere in the two main central sections of the Church without the need to socially distance ;
- Worshippers who would prefer to maintain 1 metre social distancing should sit comfortably in the left and right side aisle seating areas;
- Worshippers should still exit the Church via the Chancel Fire Escape Doors.

On 21st. March, 2022, further changes are anticipated and these will be confirmed via our website and Face book pages. As you will know the Scottish Government has announced that it expects to remove the Covid Regulations regarding the wearing of face coverings in places of worship from the 21st of March. We have taken this to mean that it will no longer be a legal necessity to wear a face

covering in church buildings - including when singing - but we have yet to see the details.

These changes are being brought in for a number of reasons:-

- the success of the vaccination programme in stemming infections and reducing harms;
- falling rates of Covid infections;
- the availability of antiviral treatments;
- the need for economic and social recovery after two years of pandemic restrictions.

We suspect that for most people the chance to take part in worship without wearing a mask will be very welcome but there will be some who will feel more at risk. While it is true that we cannot order our common life around the most anxious therefore we will maintain the left and right side seating aisles with 1 metre social distancing and individuals will be able to continue to wear a mask should they wish and sit where they like.

The Church's Covid Group in Edinburgh will meet again on 16th March after the next Government review which is scheduled for the 15th and changes will be advised as soon as possible thereafter.

A Word from our Minister: All change here

The reminder arrived from the optician - *"it is now two years since you last had an eye test - please contact the practice to arrange your eye test."* *"It can't possibly be two years since I had an eye test,"* I thought to myself. Probably because of the last 2 years during which we have lived with so many differing practices of living, work, leisure and worship, my sense of time has shifted out of focus. So maybe I need to book that appointment.

I wonder when I do go - what will have changed - will my vision be the same, have deteriorated, or improved? Will I need a new prescription and new lenses with which to view the world? How will my perspective be altered as a result of the answers to these questions?

Looking around at our world as we expect to emerge from most Covid restrictions on 21/03/22 - almost two years to the date since our first 'lockdown' of the modern era, I am struck by the changes that these two years have brought. It's all change here.

Our practice of Church life has changed significantly - we have had to move 'online' and embrace technology to continue to worship, albeit with some degree of familiarity but also with some new patterns. Some of our meetings as office-bearers have been 'in person' - some remain 'online.' Our central Church has embarked on a very serious process to reduce ministry posts across Scotland. This has led our Presbytery to a new round of Planning for Mission which will dramatically alter the delivery of ministry in our area. It's all change here.

On the world stage, the Western world has been rocked by the events in Ukraine. We saw what happened in Afghanistan, Yemen and Syria and were touched, but somehow what we see in Ukraine feels quite different. What can we do and what do we think about the threat of European violence and the economic impact of this war in our own pockets with rising costs encircling us? It's all change here.

I do not have any answers or clarity of vision on these issues, but I am concerned over them and praying for insight as to what part I and you might play for God in this. Amid the changes all around us, more fervently than ever I cling to the promise of Jesus that he is our true constant refuge in times of uncertainty.



UKRAINE

The worsening
Ukraine has
some people to

"What can we do?"

situation in
prompted
ask me,

The first thing I think we can do is to pray for peace. The Apostle Paul, no stranger to trials and tribulations wrote, "*Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-17). The second thing we may be able to do is to offer some financial aid to those caught up in this terrible situation.



The Rev. Balázs Ódor, Ecumenical Officer for the Reformed Church in Hungary, has been in direct contact with the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh and they have been able to contact the Bishop's Office in the Reformed Church in Carpathian Ukraine, and some congregations in Ukraine. It is good to take just a little time to do this, so that the right kind of help is given in a way in which it can be used on the ground where it is needed most.

From these contacts, we suggest that members are offered the opportunity to give, via the Church of Scotland, to Reformed Church in Hungary Aid (RCHA), which is run by our partner, the Reformed Church of Hungary. The RCHA has

access to the Reformed church in Ukraine who are using their buildings to support the people moving from east to west as they seek safety and sanctuary. They are also working in the border areas of Hungary, Slovakia and Romania using the Reformed Church contacts and buildings there.

They are providing daily updates and you can see more Information here:

<https://reformatus.hu/english/news/emergency-response-for-ukraine/>

Though RCHA you can support those fleeing from the east and coming to the west of Ukraine where they can be helped through the churches there; those in the west already who don't have access to their money when the banks run out and who will need food/help; and those who cross the borders into Hungary, Slovakia or Romania.

Your donations can be directed to the following account:

Royal Bank of Scotland

Church of Scotland No 1 Account

Account no 00134859

Sort code 83 06 08

Reference RCHA donation

Rev. Ian Taylor.



The Church of Scotland

MODERATOR OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Dear Colleagues,

***Thy Kingdom Come* Global Prayer Initiative:
Ascension Day to Pentecost Sunday 2022
(Thursday 26 May – Sunday 5 June)**

I write to you at a time when we are especially conscious of the need for action in response to the situation in Ukraine. It is beyond the capacity of any one of us to fully comprehend the enormity of the situation and the consequences of what is taking place. Many people in our country have put concern into action by supporting agencies bringing aid to those in need in time of war and I encourage you to do so.

Alongside this, there is an accompanying action that we can all take: Prayer.

If, like me, you find it difficult to know how to pray at such a time as this, we may recall the words of the Apostle Paul and the assurance they bring:

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words. (Romans 8: 26)

As we pray with frail words, the Spirit intercedes for us 'with sighs too deep for words'.

It is with a concern for prayer that I write to you to commend the *Thy Kingdom Come* Global Prayer Initiative 2022: <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

In November 2018, the Church of Scotland committed 'to encouraging all its parishes and people to join in *Thy Kingdom Come*' and we have done so in the years since then and I gladly do so once more.

In 2022, *Thy Kingdom Come* takes place from Ascension Day to Pentecost Sunday: 26 May – 5 June and I should wish to highlight the Prayer Journal commissioned for this year and the other new resources available: <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/resources/new-2022>

This is complemented by high quality youth resources.

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/youth>

And by resources for younger children: <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/cheekypandas>

May I commend *Thy Kingdom Come* 2022 and encourage you to consider participating in this global prayer initiative at a time when our world stands in the need of prayer.

Wishing you every blessing.

Yours sincerely,



A Word from our Assistant Minister

Rev. Edson Duque de Castro

The Calling to Survive and Thrive

What do you want to be when you grow up? Has anyone ever asked you this question in your childhood? Probably yes. Every time this question is asked the focus is normally on your career, not on your calling. Maybe it is

an indication that we are not giving the due importance to the Christian notion of calling nowadays.

In Christian theology, there is a special word to refer to our calling. The word is vocation and is different from career. The word vocation comes from the Latin word "vocare" which means to call. Therefore, a person who is aware of his vocation is a person who is listening to God. The root of the word career, in turn, refers us to the idea of "racetrack". As we well know, racetracks, although in different formats, are places where you do a lot of laps without going anywhere. God has called us to faithfully respond to a vocation and not merely to develop a successful career.

God has called us all on two levels. Firstly, he called us to follow Jesus. It is our primary calling. When we respond to the call to follow Jesus, we realise that God is also calling us on a second level. Secondly God calls to participate in what he is doing in the world. If you have decided to follow Jesus and take part in what God is doing, you shouldn't choose where to serve and how to serve.

I have been serving as an ordained minister in the Brazilian Presbyterian Church for almost 23 years. The last 12 years I have spent in a big and wonderful community in the Sao Paulo countryside. My family and I thought we would be there until the end of our lives, but Jesus had different plans for us.

Now we are here in Scotland because we are disciples of Jesus looking for opportunities to participate creatively in what he is doing here. We are very pleased to be here because God has put us into an amazing community formed by

lovely people. However, in many ways, it has not been easy. Outside of us, we have the challenge of the weather that is a little bit different from what we are used to in Brazil. Moreover, we have the challenge of the language. For example, the "g" sound in English is the "d" sound in Portuguese. The result? I don't know how to pronounce the word *changed*, yet.

There are challenges inside of us too. Every day we must work hard to understand how we can serve Jesus and his kingdom while we are serving Springfield Cambridge Church and the Church of Scotland. My family and I still cannot see the entire path ahead for us, but we go forward knowing it's going to be a fascinating journey because Jesus is going ahead of us.

Do not think that only people serving as ministers, elders or missionaries are called by God to serve him and his kingdom. Actually, the word confession and the word profession have the same Latin root. It means that a disciple of Jesus embraces his profession not only to survive, but also to confess Jesus through whom he or she thrives.

The Dutch theologian Abraham Kuyper once said. "There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, Mine!" Our world is a 'big parish' in which we live, serve, and pray all the time. "Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." Kuyper's words invite us to think deeply about what we are praying for.

Rev. Edson Duque de Castro

KIRK SESSION NEWS

Following on from the last Edition of the Church Magazine in December 2021, when we noted the resignation of James Scott and James Robertson, at its meeting on the 15/02/22, the Kirk Session appointed two Joint Session Clerks: Mrs Christine Faichnie and Mrs. Joyce Watchorn and Mrs. Marion Rae as our new Magazine Editor.

Congratulations to these members on taking up these new roles and responsibilities.



Mrs. Christine Faichnie, Joint Session Clerk

Recently myself and Joyce Watchorn were asked to take on the role of Session Clerk(joint), as such the minister has asked us to introduce ourselves.

My name is Christine Faichnie and I have been an Elder in the church for 8 years. I'm a relative newcomer having only joined the congregation in 2011, I was made to feel very welcome and have made many friends. I am married to Kenny and we have 2 daughters, Rachel is 24 and currently living in Newcastle and Fiona will be 21 this year and I'm sure many of you know her from helping me on my Sunday duties. I also have two crazy, black cocker spaniels.

During all the strange times of the last two years. It has been good to get to know so many more names of our worshippers while I was doing the Track and Trace at the door. It is so much nicer to be able to greet you by name.

I'm sure you will all be patient with us as we start our new role over the coming weeks.

Many thanks to Jim Scott and George McMillan for meeting with us to help us better understand what lies ahead.

Mrs. Christine Faichnie, Joint Session Clerk



Mrs. Joyce Watchorn

As most of you know, Jim Scott stood down from the role of Session Clerk after doing it so well for many years. There wasn't one person capable of filling his shoes – so here come the gruesome twosome- Christine Faichnie and me! Thank you, Jim, for the knowledge transfer to date. There will be more questions to follow. Thanks also to George McMillan for his guidance and support. I can't speak for Christine, but I need all the help I can get!

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Joyce Watchorn and I have been an Elder in the church for 8 years. I was married here, moved to Robroyston Church only to miss you all and return in 2007. I am married to Keith and have two sons, Ben and Mark. Lots of you will remember the boys from their time in Sunday School – yes- I was “that parent” who waited in scared anticipation for the reply from one of them to the minister when the Sunday School children were asked a question! Those two little boys are now 17 and 14 respectively. I also have three cats who can be more trouble than the boys!

I am looking forward to being half your Session Clerk. If there is anything you want us to know, please stop and chat – I love to chat.

Joyce x

Mrs. Joyce Watchorn, Joint Session Clerk



Mrs. Marion Rae, Magazine Editor

I have been a member of Springfield Cambridge Church for forty years. I am married to David and we have two grown up daughters. We are proud grandparents to Poppy, Robin, and Zara.

I am delighted to take on the role of Editor of "The Record" and I will endeavour to do my best to bring you a magazine which reflects our church, our community, and the wider Christian world.

Mrs. Joan McGowan, Emeritus Elder

The Kirk Session regrettably received and accepted the resignation from Mrs. Joan McGowan as a serving Elder but were delighted when Joan agreed to remain an Emeritus Elder.



On **Sunday 27th March, 2022** two Long Service Certificates marking 30 years Service were presented to Joan McGowan and Iain Murray who were ordained as Elders on 23/02/1992.



PRESBYTERY PLANNING Mission Plan Review Update

Mission Plan Latest

The Presbytery Plan Creation Group has now started work on how Glasgow can best meet the requirements of the Presbytery Mission Plan Act. Glasgow has been allocated 84 ministries by the General Assembly and the Group is looking at how to best make use of these posts.

Over the coming months the Group will be using newsletters and social media channels to keep you up to date as they work towards producing a draft plan to go to Presbytery later this year.

Since our last magazine in December 2021, Presbytery has issued the following two updates:

31 January 2022

Dear Friends

“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven”

What is our purpose to be in these times? That is the question which the Presbytery Plan Creation Group is now dealing with.

I think this is a time to face facts, to pull up and to plant, to build on what has been done and to continue that work urgently.

Time to face facts: The 2021 General Assembly instructed all presbyteries to review and update their mission plans by the end of 2022.

Time to pull-up and plant: The Presbytery of Glasgow has been allocated a total of 84 ‘ministry’ posts. We currently have 123 charges, and many church buildings

Time to complete work already begun: The Presbytery Mission Plan Review Group and last year’s local focus groups have given us 21 principles to abide by. Now, we all have work to do: The PPCG has to bring a draft Mission Plan before Presbytery for approval by September and the Faith Nurture Forum and General Trustees by December.

It is important to us that we consult with local churches and take their comments and concerns into consideration. We are a diverse Presbytery; we are coming from different starting places and our congregations each have their own characters and histories. There will be change. Change both excites and threatens us and I can relate to both reactions.

We face hard choices. No parish or post is ‘immune’. As in bereavement, when we feel shock, numbness, anxiety or denial, we react with denial, defensively, even angrily. After all, we are experiencing loss shared, personal and cultural.

However, I do wonder where will defensiveness lead? Denial might deliver a short-term pay-off; a committee given a bloody nose; a hard choice left for another day; the illusion of business as usual. We could split into parties 'for and against' or argue over the inheritance. All very understandable and very human, but is there another way?

What if we own these feelings? What if we say, "Yes, I *do* feel threatened. We *are* angry and resentful" and go on to say, "Alright, we *won't* pretend that this is what we'd choose normally, but we have to deal with it. This is the time." This cannot be wished away. Much has already been done and *now* we have to see it through.

Your PPCG will work conscientiously to bring a draft plan before Presbytery. Then Presbytery will decide.

Over the coming weeks and months we will make every effort to maintain regular contact with you. It is important that you know how we are progressing and it is equally important to us that we know about your comments and concerns. What can you offer in this shared effort?

Yours in Christ
Roy Henderson
Convener, Presbytery Plan Creation Group

Dear Friends,

You may recall that last December Presbytery agreed that the work on the new Mission Plan would be done on a zonal basis. Presbytery will be asked to approve these zones on 8th March, so we are contacting you now to ask each congregation to confirm where it sees itself best placed. Once these zones are agreed, the Presbytery Plan Creation Group (PPCG) will consult with each zone and at a local level to work out how best the plan will be met.

Congregations have been placed in the same geographical grouping that was given for the focus groups last autumn. It might be that you feel your congregation sits better in an alternative group. If so please make clear in your response where it would be better placed and why.

In order that this work can be placed before Presbytery on 8th March, the PPCG asks for responses to be returned by 28th February.

The provisional map is based on geography and there may be some congregations who feel that they would be better working with those in another zone. Once the zones are agreed, an allocation of posts will then be given to each zone for the further discussions. The population figures used to make these allocations will be the most recently available to presbytery, which takes its guidance from the Church of Scotland statistician. Given that the plan will be reviewed on an annual basis, it is anticipated that each year the populations in each zone will be revised and the plan updated on that basis.

Yours faithfully
Rev. Roy Henderson
Convener, Presbytery Plan Creation Group (PPCG)

Springfield Cambridge has been placed in Zone 3 along with the following congregations:

Bishopbriggs Kenmure, Springfield Cambridge, Cadder, Torrance, Campsie, Milton of Campsie, Lenzie Old, Lenzie Union, Kirkintilloch St Columba, Kirkintilloch St. Mary's, Kirkintilloch St. David's, Kirkintilloch Hillhead, Kilsyth Burns & Old, Kilsyth Anderson, Cumbernauld Old, Cumbernauld Abronhill, Cumbernauld Kildrum, Cumbernauld St. Mungo's, Condorrat, Twechar.

Looking Back



At Christmas time 2021 the congregation displayed its customary generosity and raised for Lodging House Mission £933; St. Rollox: Tesco Gift Vouchers £830 and UNICEF Jars of Grace £953.

Thank you to everyone who supported these initiatives.

Lodging House Mission

Just to say 'Thank You' for the Christmas card sales, the total was £589, and the Christmas donation totalling £200.

The mission is now open again and serving Breakfast and Lunch to the service users. I can once again accept donations of money to help with the cost of these meals if you feel you can help in this way.

Thank you for your support over the years. It is very much appreciated.

Christine Mackintosh

We received a thank you note from **Rev. Jane Howitt, Minister of St. Rollox Church**, reproduced below:

23 Dec 2021

To the Springfield Cambridge
Church Family

Thank you once again for reaching out with such generosity to support refugees and asylum seekers in the north of the city. We use your gifts to provide food and toiletries to a number of folk who literally have no money to live on - so you can imagine what a huge difference your

gifts make. We are also able to pop some extra Christmas treats and small gifts into a bag for each of the families.

Your partnership and support of St Rollox and our Outreach project is a great encouragement to us. We value your prayers as we continue this challenging ministry.

We wish you God's richest blessings on your church and individual lives at this time.

Jane Howitt - Minister.

Springfield Cambridge Festival Chorus Virtual Christmas Concert 2021

We are delighted to report that the total amount raised from our virtual Christmas concert is **£14,590**. This is a magnificent total, given the Covid restrictions last year, and our thanks must again go to our very generous sponsors and to all who donated so generously.

Hopefully this year things will return to normal and our 2022 Christmas Concert will once again take place in the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall as planned, on Wednesday 21 December.

Sheila Dunbar
Secretary"

This year's event is scheduled for **Wednesday 21st December, 2022** at 7.30pm. in the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall.



Messages of Thanks

Thank you to everyone for their good wishes and cards for our recent 70th Wedding Anniversary. This was very much appreciated.

Margaret and Eric Leeper



On behalf of my Mum Margaret and myself, I would like to thank members of the Congregation for their prayers and good wishes over the past few months on Mum's several stays in hospital, her ongoing battle with dementia, and her recent move into Springvale Care Home. It has meant a great deal to know that others are thinking and praying for us.

Margery Gough

Flower Calendar 2022

Look Forward in Faith

I had hoped we would have been back in business but things don't always go to plan.

Thank you to everyone who has given donations lately. These are being held safe. I hope and pray that they will be in use soon.

Easter is almost upon us. May the blessing of Easter be with you and your loved ones always.

*Anne Harvey
Flower Convenor*

The Guild

We are delighted to be back in the Springfield Hall and an important part of our meetings has resumed - we can now enjoy a cuppa and blether. Our hymn singing sounds better too. At our last meeting, as usual we prayed for our troubled world, and we prayed especially for the people of Ukraine. We still wear masks, use hand sanitiser and are requested to carry out lateral flow tests before meetings so still trying to stay safe.

This year we have had great speakers - Alex Stuart on Rabbin Burns, Robert Alexander from the Vine Trust telling us about the village of hope at Kazunzu in Tanzania and Claire Herbert, chaplain at the Lodging House Mission. One speaker cancelled at notice and Joyce Macmillan stepped in with an enjoyable illustrated tale of her tour of the Far East. We are hosting the Glasgow North Guilds Together AGM on 14 March and we look forward to our hostess tea when we will be entertained by the Elderly Brothers aka Davie Hogg and George Reid. Our last meeting will be the AGM and games night in April and we hope to have an outing to Largs in May.

Although we have not been able to have our usual fund raising activities, the ladies of the guild have very generously donated £130 to CHAS, £251 + gift aid to the Lodging House Mission and so far have raised £606.75 for the Guild Projects. It was very satisfying to see the houses which had already been built at Kazunza and to see happy orphans with their foster parents being provided with a home and an opportunity in the future to go to school or train for employment. This is faith in action in the Guild. If you would like to be part of this please look out for our programme for 2022 -23. You will be very welcome.

Ellen Robertson

STOP PRESS

Since the Guild AGM on 4th April the following funds have now been disbursed:

Amounts donated to charities: £1381

Fabric Fund donation: £600

BAPTISMS

Jesus said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me."



Sunday 19/12/21 Ronan John-Patrick Tansey



Sunday 20/02/22 Kyle Bair



Sunday 3/04/2022 Zara Rae Baird



FUNERALS

*God of grace and peace, in your Son Jesus Christ, you have given us new birth into a living hope. Strengthen us now to live in the power of the resurrection and keep us united with our loved one from whom in death we are not divided. For you live and reign for ever and ever.
Amen.*

9 th . December, 2021	Mrs. Sadie Gordon, Keir Hardie Court
6 th . January, 2022	Mr. David Munro, Ravens Court
14 th . January, 2022	Mrs. Anne Stevenson, Golfhill N/Home
17 th . January, 2022	Mrs. Sylvia Smith, Mavisbank Care Home
21 st . January, 2022	Mrs. Margaret Tennant, Belvidere Cres.
25 th . January, 2022	Mrs. Helen H. Harris, Birkhill Avenue
28 th . January, 2022	Mr. William F. Sievwright, Springfield Road
31 st . January, 2022	Mrs. Mary Little, Peebles
1 st . February, 2022	Mrs. Phyllis McNeil, Stobhill Care Home
4 th . February, 2022	Mrs. Rita Elliot, Gowanlea Care Home
4 th . February, 2022	Mr. Allan Ramsay, Falkland Crescent
25 th . February 2022 (MEMORIAL SERVICE)	Mrs. Elspeth & Mr. George Graham
8 th . March, 2022	Mr. Joseph (Joe) Warrilow, Bishopsgate
25 th March 2022	Mrs. Marguerite Bushby-Wilke, Manchester (formerly Keir Hardie Court)

WEDDINGS

Wedding of Rhona Scott & Craig Ritchie on Friday 11/03/2022



CONGRATULATIONS – Recent Engagements

Jacob Williams to Emily Roberts 12/11/21 – Wedding 29/04/2023

Douglas Robertson to Kim Halliday 22/01/22 – Wedding April 2023

Kenneth Robertson to Jackie Murray– Wedding 05/08/23



New Year's Honours List – Congratulations to Grahame Thomas Smith who received a CBE for his services to the Trade Union Movement and the Promotion of Fair Work in Scotland. Grahame is a former member of the 268th. Glasgow Company of the Boys' Brigade.



268 Glasgow Boys' Brigade Junior Section

We have 9 boys on the role at the moment but over the past few weeks we have had absences due to Covid. The boys are working towards their awards; P4s their Bronze award, P5s their Silver award and the P6s their Gold award. They have been keeping active, crafting and learning stories from the Bible. They have enjoyed a joint night with the Company Section using an Escape Room theme. Not sure who were the best at working out the clues! They are also enjoying learning some Portuguese courtesy of Domenico and Edson. Thanks again to Margaret, Mel and Harry for all their help. Also Jim and Fiona for setting out the hall for us, really appreciated.

Mary Armour

268 Glasgow Boys' Brigade Company Section

After Christmas, we started back in February again using the new programme packs from BB Nationally. The Boys have been learning about the Winter Olympics, playing some Curling and learning about the different sports. We played some giant board games, learned about the rules of Rugby and tried some touch Rugby in the hall and reflected on events in Ukraine in recent weeks. We are hoping to run our summer programme after Easter having missed it the past couple of years and the Boys are looking forward to getting out and about again doing some different activities! Finally, the reunion dinner is on 25th March and we look forward to welcoming many ex-members to that at the end of the month.

John Armour

Captain 268 Glasgow Boys' Brigade

268 Glasgow Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys

The anchor boys currently have 29 boys on the role with 26 regular attenders on a Friday night. Our programme has returned to as normal as we can manage under the current restrictions. The boys have been taking part in dodgeball, football, basketball, tag rugby, crafts & team games. Our boys are in four groups this year with them being named after different Dinosaurs. We have also been running our team points competition over the last few months with each team taking part in various team games & quizzes to earn points for their team. The team with the most points by May will win the competition with each boy in the winning team receiving a trophy. Our 4 groups have Team Leaders who are all Primary 3 boys....Noah, Owen, Cameron & Andrew.

We also had our Halloween & Christmas parties last year which the boys all enjoyed. For those that are in the church building check out our photos on our notice board next to the Henry French doors. We have also welcomed Greg, Callum & Nathan

into anchor boys from the company section who are working on their Queens badge & Duke of Edinburgh award respectively.



268 Glasgow Girls' Brigade

We restarted our session on the 18th of February after an extended Christmas break due to Covid Restrictions. The girls have now completed their badge work and are working towards their parents' night and prize giving. Our numbers have steadily increased with 31 girls on our register. The younger girls have enjoyed lots of indoor and outdoor games, crafts, decoration pancakes, biscuits and are now planning their Mother's Day and Easter activities. The Brigaders favourites being hide and seek in the dark and Kahoot.

The girls celebrated together with Fiona Russell on Tuesday night to wish her a happy 60th Birthday. Many happy returns for the 10th of March Fiona.

Katie Byrne



268th Glasgow ex Members Dinner 25 March

Following on from two cancelled events, 27 ex members and friends of the “268” met on Friday 25 March in an effort to return to a more traditional calendar less affected by Covid. There was much laughter, exchanging of stories and catching up not just from. A two-year break but in other instances for much longer breaks. There were three folks there for the first time which was encouraging with many commitments to spread the word to family and friends for any future event.

Our Speaker Craig Turnbull shared what he learned from his time in the BB at the 278 in Netherlee Church. How it not only influenced his life values but also gave him skills he continues to enjoy, in particular, his love of piping which he has returned to in recent years. He also spoke of his day job as Sheriff Principal of Glasgow & Strathclyde and the comparison between private practice and public office. His comments were well received, and he handled a short Q&A session with ease.

The Company will benefit by around £600 which will be enhanced by a Gift Aid claim and a further £150 was also raised for Ukraine reflecting the generosity of all who attended. Next year's event will take place around the same time and it is hoped that greater numbers will feel able to attend.

Thanks to all who made the evening a success.

Donald Armour

Treasurer's Report

Enclosed with this magazine is a summary set of the Church Accounts for 2021 along with the Financial Review that was stated in the Full Accounts. If anyone would like a set of the full accounts then please just get in touch with me.

Thank you to everyone for all their continuing financial contributions to the church during the last year, it really is much appreciated.

Jim Kerr

COVID 19 financial impact at a glance

APPEAL FOR THE NEW HEATING SYSTEM/BOILER RAISED A TOTAL OF £52,197 WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OVER 220 HOUSEHOLDS. INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE TOTAL IS TAX RECOVERIES OF £7,926 THAT WERE RECEIVED ON THE GIFT AIDED DONATIONS.

LOAN OF £30,000 RECEIVED FROM THE GENERAL TRUSTEES TO ASSIST WITH THE FUNDING OF THE NEW HEATING SYSTEM/BOILER.

GENERAL FUND OFFERINGS INCREASED 4% YEAR ON YEAR, BUT STILL 5% LESS THAN PRE-PANDEMIC LEVEL IN 2019.

OPEN PLATE OFFERINGS DOWN 12% YEAR ON YEAR.

INCOME FROM OUTSIDE AGENCIES INCREASED 49% YEAR ON YEAR, BUT STILL 37% LESS THAN PRE-PANDEMIC LEVEL IN 2019.

THE CHURCH FUND RAISING GROUP WAS UNABLE TO UNDERTAKE ANY FUND RAISING EVENTS IN 2021 DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS.

4 NEW GIFT AID STANDING ORDERS AND 5 NEW FWO STANDING ORDERS SET UP BY MEMBERS DURING 2021

PayPal WHICH WAS SET UP AS A METHOD OF GIVING IN APRIL 2020 CONTINUED TO BE WELL UTILISED BY MEMBERS BOTH FOR GENERAL FUND GIVING AND FOR THE HEATING/BOILER FUND APPEAL. £1,864 WAS RECEIVED VIA PayPal in 2021. MEMBERS WHO GIVE VIA THIS METHOD ARE BEING ENCOURAGED TO MOVE OVER TO STANDING ORDER TO MITIGATE THE EFFECT OF PayPal CHARGES REDUCING THE VALUE OF THEIR DONATION.

129 CHEQUES POSTED DURING THE YEAR TO THE TREASURER BY MEMBERS IN RESPECT OF THEIR OFFERINGS.

£5,489 OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RECEIVED FROM HM GOVERNMENT DURING 2021 IN RESPECT OF THE JOB RETENTION SCHEME FOR THE CHURCH OFFICER AND THE DEPUTY CHURCH OFFICER. BOTH STAFF MEMBERS CONTINUED TO RECEIVE THEIR FULL MONTHLY SALARIES ALL THE WAY THROUGH THE PANDEMIC.

MINISTRIES AND MISSION ALLOCATION OF £78,281 AND PRESBYTERY DUES OF £4,786 PAID IN FULL.

CONTINUED FINANCIAL UNCERTAINTY FOR THE FORSEEABLE FUTURE

Review of 2021

The principal source of income for Springfield Cambridge Church comes from Weekly Offerings, but due to COVID only 41 “normal Sunday Services” with “full congregations” were possible in 2021. Continuous emphasis is placed on “Tax Efficient Giving” for those members whose circumstances allow and it is pleasing to note that 87p in each £1 of offerings received in 2021 was Gift-Aided compared with pre-pandemic, 80p per £1 in 2019. The number of members giving “Tax Efficiently as at 31st December 2021 was 186 as against 202 at the 1st January 2021. There are also another 7 members who regularly give Tax Efficiently to any appeals that take place during the year depending on their own tax situation. As a congregation we continue to take maximum advantage where possible of the Gift Aid Small Donation Scheme (GASDS) that was first introduced on 6th April 2013 which means that we can claim tax relief on the first £8,000 of small cash donations in the offering plate, but due to the impact of COVID the tax relief received in tax year 2021/22 is considerably lower than we would normally receive.

As well as Income from Offerings we also received a generous donation in 2021 from the 65th Glasgow Girls’ Brigade Company towards the Heating System/Boiler Appeal. In 2021 we also received £15,343 (2020-£10,645) in donations/contributions from the outside agencies who regularly use our halls. We maintain an excellent relationship with all the outside agencies who use our premises and the Trustees recognise the positive financial benefits this brings to Springfield Cambridge Church. There is a minimal cost to the church apart from heating and lighting for the Outside Agencies as most of the “opening/closing” of the Church Buildings is carried out by volunteer members.

In 2021 £80,085 was spent on the installation of a new boiler and state of the art heating system with another £7,879 spent on Fabric Repairs to the buildings. We are indebted to Fabric Committee and the Monday morning work party who do so much to maintain the church buildings.

The General Fund in 2021 shows a deficit for the year of £2,550. £538 has been transferred to the Manse Fund as at the year-end and £8,000 transferred from the Fabric Fund to the General Fund which means that the General Fund shows a balance of £5,467 as at 31st December 2021.

As at 31st December 2021 we were still awaiting settlement of our Quarter 4 (2021) General Fund tax claim from HMRC for £5,940. Payment of this amount was received on 19th January 2022.

Unfortunately, no credit interest was payable on our bank accounts during 2021 due to continuing low interest rates and this is also likely to be the case in the near future.

Review of 2021 (contd)

We are members of The Church of Scotland Energy Scheme for Electricity and Gas which is administered by the General Trustees. Nearly 900 Church of Scotland congregations are members of the scheme and Springfield Cambridge has been a member since the group was formed nearly 20 years ago. The Trustees are committed to lowering energy costs in the medium to long term and the Congregational Board has an ongoing action plan that is being implanted at the moment that will help to achieve this goal. We also received a 100% exemption from water charges in tax year 2021/2022 and this will continue in tax year 2022/2023. This exemption is granted on the basis of our income in previous years

Many Challenges lie ahead in 2022 and beyond with the impact of COVID 19 still being felt financially by the congregation and by many of our members who have adversely affected. The generosity of many members to Springfield Cambridge in 2021 was quite staggering taking everything into consideration and we as the Trustees are most grateful for each financial contribution that was made by members last year.

Jim Kerr
Treasurer

Springfield Cambridge Church (Scottish Charity Number SC005642)										
Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021										
	2021		2020							
	£	£	£	£						
GENERAL FUND INCOME										
Offerings										
WFO Scheme (non Gift Aid)	11,876		11,298							
Gift Aid Donations	87,000		83,334							
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid Donations	17,555		18,278							
Open Plate	1,554		1,765							
		117,985		114,675						
Other Ordinary General Income (Including Church Org and Outside Agencies)		20,660		11,239						
Extraordinary General Income		nil		nil						
Total Ordinary General Income		138,645		125,914						
Total General Fund Expenditure (see below)		141,195		135,213						
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		(2,550)		(9,299)						
General Fund Balance as at 1st January		555		10,387						
Transfers to/from Other Funds		7,462		533						
GENERAL FUND BALANCE AS AT 31 DEC		5,467		555						
GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE										
National Ministry and Mission & Wider Work		83,068		89,426						
Local Staffing Costs		29,591		21,771						
Buildings Costs		21,495		18,202						
Other Local Costs		7,041		5,814						
TOTAL		141,195		135,213						
BREAKDOWN OF FUNDS										
General Fund		5,467		555						
Fabric Fund		46,560		62,336						
Boiler/Heating System Fund		(16,241)		nil						
Development Fund		8,436		8,436						
Manse Fund		3,090		2,552						
Organ Fund		932		nil						
Book of Remembrance Fund		70		70						
General Trustee Loan Fund		20,000		nil						
Bequest Fund		680		680						
Benevolent Fund		3,663		4,808						
		72,657		79,437						

Stated Annual Meeting (S.A.M.) 2022 - Tuesday 29th. March 2022, 7.00 p.m. - Room 2 Changes which were introduced some years ago by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) mean that at this meeting in the Cambridge Chapel the 2021, 2020, 2019 Annual accounts will be received by the congregation. At this meeting we have multiple accounts to receive because of Covid restrictions and delays. The Trustees have previously met to approve these accounts as required by OSCR.



This year, the Congregational Board would be pleased to welcome new or returning members of the Board to serve for a three year term. This is an important meeting in the life of our Congregation and you are encouraged to consider serving the church in this way. Volunteers are needed each year.



Following the S.A.M., there will be a meeting of the Congregational Board at approximately 7.30 p.m. in Room 2

Holy Week and Easter arrangements



During **Holy Week** all the **Services** will be at **7pm** unless otherwise indicated, and the services will be 'live streamed' via the YouTube channel or website of the host congregation.

Palm Sunday (April 10th)

Springfield Cambridge Church

Monday (April 11th)

Cadder Church

Tuesday (April 12th)

St. Matthew's

Wednesday (April 13th)

Woodhill Evangelical Church

**Maunday Thursday (April 14th) St James the Less
(Including Holy Communion)**

Good Friday (April 15th)

Community Church

**Easter Sunday (April 17th) Springfield Cambridge Church
(11 am) including the Sacraments of Holy Baptism & Holy Communion**



The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland will be held in the



Assembly Hall, the Mound, Edinburgh from **Saturday 21st. – Thursday 26th. May, 2022.**

Plans are being finalised for this year's meeting which may be something of hybrid nature – some Commissioners may attend in person, whilst others may be attending 'on-line.'



On **Saturday 21st. May, 2022**, Euan Russell and musical friends will return to Springfield Cambridge to hold a concert in the Church in aid of SAMH from 6.45-10pm. Tickets will be available from Monday 11th. April (£10 Adults, £6 Concessions) from Euan or Fiona Russell our Deputy Church Officer and numbers will be limited to 200. Seating in the main sections of the Church will be unrestricted with the left and right-side aisles being set aside for those who wish to maintain a 1metre social distance. At the interval light refreshments will be served in the Cameron Hall. This promises to be a musical feast so please check your diaries now!

Recycle for Profit ~ *The Next Chapter* ~

Previously, a modicum of success was achieved in raising funds for our church through the sale of donated Mobile Phones, DVDs and Ink Cartridges. Now, in these difficult times for church finances, our request is for donations of *books*. We will then endeavour to sell such donations on-line in aid of our church funds.

Q. What type of books are being requested? A. Any kind! Hardback or paperback, fiction or non-fiction, adult literature or children's books, works of reference or textbooks. If it is a book which is held within a library then that represents a book which we will gratefully receive as a donation to our church.

Q. Will all the donated books sell? A. Alas – no. But as with previous *RforP* item requests, the benefit is cumulative – the more books we can check on-line then better is our chance of raising a meaningful sum for our church funds.

Q. So what will happen to donated books that do not sell?

A. They will, in turn, be donated to the Oxfam Bookshop located at the top of Byres Road. Thus, every book donated is of value – either to raise church funds or to assist with the work of a charity. Truly – it is a win-win situation.

Q. Which just leaves – where is the collection point for books? A. There will be a large box placed in the Hall of Fellowship to receive book donations on a Sunday. The box will then reside, Monday to Saturday, in the cloakroom area.

If you have any questions or queries relating to this fundraising initiative, then please see me on a Sunday morning. If you wish any book donations to be collected, then please call me on 07495326187 and a mutually convenient pick-up time can be arranged.

To all the good folk of Springfield Cambridge – please check all nooks and crannies around your home to see if there is a well read tome which you would be happy to donate!

James Robertson


