

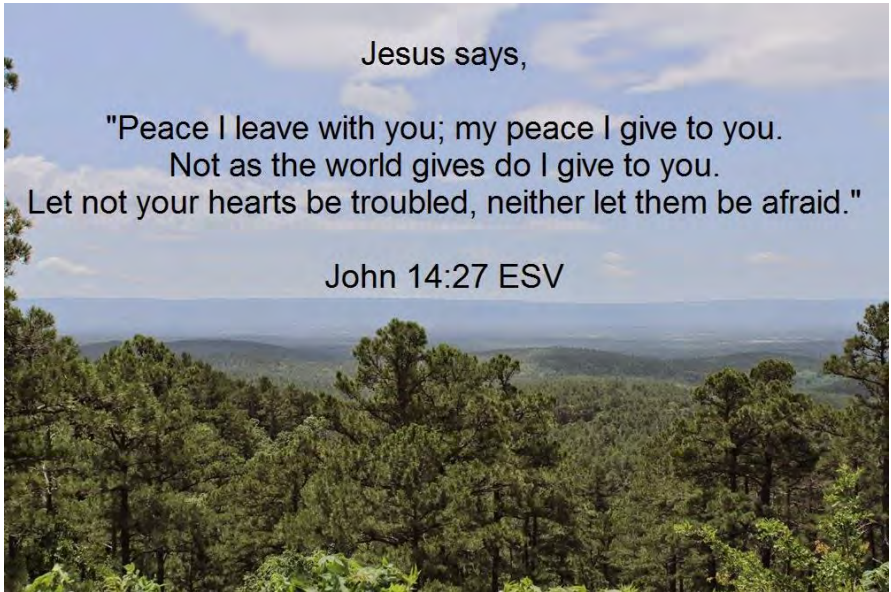


The Springfield Cambridge Record

Jesus says,

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
Not as the world gives do I give to you.
Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

John 14:27 ESV



June 2020

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Scottish Charity SC005642

Letter from our Minister

Often you will hear people speak of '*natural resources*' to refer to the likes of things such as water, forests, land. But there is another more even more precious natural resource - human relationships. I am certain that love and social connection matter more than anything else in life. The priority of such relationships is not always immediately recognisable.

Often though in a time of crisis - whether at the family, communal, national or world level that crisis strengthens our relational wealth by drawing us closer together.

What makes things so strained just now is that we are actually being asked to distance ourselves from others. Not just physically but in some cases because of quarantine even greater isolation is called for. Such circumstances stress the very social connections we all rely upon. The resulting loneliness, fear and uncertainty cause many folk to look around for signs of hope.

One individual whose life comes to mind as an inspirational hope in a crisis is Martin Rinkart (1586-1649). He was a gifted musician at several prominent churches in Saxony, Germany, before returning to Ministry. He then served for 30 years before his death the people of Eilenburg - years which almost overlapped with the terrible Thirty Years' War.

Because it was a walled city, refugees from the surrounding countryside, besieged by the invasions of the Swedish military, poured into Eilenburg. It did not take long for famine and pestilence to set in. In 1637 alone, 8000 people died of disease - including other ministers,

most of the town council, and Rinkart's own wife. He was left to minister to the whole city, sometimes preaching at burial services for as many as 200 dead in a single week. Known as a faithful and caring pastor, he gave away everything he owned except for the barest essentials to care for his family.

In the depth of the communal suffering around him, Rinkart wrote a hymn text with familiar words to us:

*"Now thank we all our God,
With hearts and hands and voices;
Who wondrous things He has done,
In whom this world rejoices."*

In sharing this story, I am not likening our situation to that of Rinkart's time, although there are some parallels. Today around us a raft of people are labouring to keep us safe - from the staff in our NHS (for whom we assemble on a Thursday evening to applaud), to a range of key workers, including shop workers, delivery drivers, refuse collectors, to name but a few, seen and unseen alike. Whether we like it or not, whether we know it or not, we are all in this together.

In another verse, Rinkart speaks of a bounteous God staying near us through our anxiety:

*"Keep us all in grace,
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all harm,
In this world and the next."*

It is a hymn worth coming back to at the present time when we are in 'lock down' wondering when we will see our most precious natural resource fully restored.

Rev Ian Taylor

LOOKING BACK

Church - but not as we have known it! Normal service will resume.....



Based on the current recommendations of the Church Offices at 121 George Street, Edinburgh, and the UK and Scottish Governments the Church building remains closed for the present. Two of our staff, Jim Tonner and Fiona Russell continue to be fully paid with support from the Government furlough scheme. Alan Craig continues to provide musical contributions to the weekly Praise Team ZOOM Rehearsals and to our Sunday Services.

District Elders are doing their best to check in regularly with members via phone calls, and the Guild are carrying out weekly 'telephone tree calls' to members, as are the Widowers and Coffin Dodgers Group. A number of members are supporting others in our community, and we have connected our volunteers to an initiative via BCT, BCC, EDVA, and OPAL to support our wider community, as described within the leaflet shown on page 5.

If you have a need or are aware of someone who needs some assistance from our Church community, please contact myself (☎ 0141 772 1540) or email (✉ ITaylor@churchofscotland.org.uk) or the Session Clerk.

Our weekly Worship Services remain online at 11am on a Sunday via our Website (www.springfieldcambridge.org.uk), through our YouTube channel and Face book page.

Church members are encouraged to continue to support Springfield Cambridge with their giving and offerings by posting cheques to the Treasurer or ideally by standing order. Please contact Jim if you have any queries. There is also an opportunity to make donation



online via our website via PayPal, or by scanning the above code.

Sunday Online Services. We are beginning to settle into a routine with these now and feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Some of our early technical issues have been resolved and the quality is of a high standard, given the limitations we are working within (barking dogs and ringing telephones!) On your behalf I would wish to record my thanks to Alan, for his weekly contributions, our team of Readers, and other musicians and singers who have graced our TV and tablet screens.

In particular though, I would wish to record my grateful thanks to Neil Copeland who has taken us around the countryside on his bicycle, acted as our producer and editor and put the whole package together to allow us to worship online. To that end, if you would like to send in some photos to be included on a Sunday morning, if they are free of copyright restrictions, please send them to:

photos_springfield@outlook.com

A few people have received DVD copies of the Services because they are unable to access them online, and if you would like to be one of those please phone me at the Manse (☎ 014 1772 1540) or email (✉ ITaylor@churchofscotland.org.uk) and we will try and distribute one to you.

Rev Ian Taylor

COVID-19

G64 COMMUNITY RESPONSE

Are you vulnerable or isolated due to Covid-19?
Do you need help with essential shopping, collecting prescriptions, posting letters, or just a friendly chat?
Contact the OPAL helpline below for help from your community.



a Bishopbriggs community partnership supported by:



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.

Wednesday 1st April, 2020	Mrs Lilian H. Young, Grainger Road
Monday 6 th April, 2020	Mr Alexander (Alex) M. Lockhart, Thrums Avenue
Monday 6 th April, 2020	Mrs Margaret Hood, Montrose Terrace
Wednesday 8 th April, 2020	Mr John Calder, Lilyburn Care Home
Tuesday 14 th April, 2020	Mrs Elizabeth (Betty) B. James, Rannoch Avenue
Friday 17 th April, 2020	Mr Iain J. Bone, Ben Vorlich Drive
Wednesday 29 th April, 2020	Mr Norman Duncan, Burlington Court
Monday 4 th May, 2020	Mr Duncan Macmillan, Sella Road
Tuesday 5 th . May, 2020	Mr John Edmiston, Mailing Avenue
Tuesday 5 th . May, 2020	Mrs. Catherine H. Heathwood, Springfield Square
Thursday 7 th May, 2020	Mr David Haining, Mugdock Care Home
Wednesday 13 th May, 2020	Mr John M. Cooper, Northgate House
Wednesday 13 th May, 2020	Mrs Jean C. Kerr, Golfhill Care Home
Thursday 14 th May, 2020	Mr Peter B. Gibson, Rannoch Gardens
Tuesday 19 th May, 2020	Mr Alexander (Lex) S. Murray, Northgate House
Wednesday 20 th May, 2020	Mrs Annie (Anne) S.B. G. Livesey, Ashgill Care Home
Thursday 21 st May, 2020	Mr Thomas G. Soutar, Sutcliffe Road
Friday 22 nd May, 2020	Mr Peter S. Millar, Crinan Gardens

LOOKING FORWARD



What is there that allows us to “Look Forward” in hope? What positives does the “Future Ahead” hold? For this magazine Editor it is the anticipation that the next issue of the magazine in August will be a Celebratory issue as we rejoice being back worshipping at church of a Sunday morning (in one format or another)

Finance Report

Thank you to everyone since the middle of March for your offerings. A number of people have posted cheques to me and/or set up standing orders for their offerings. To these people I am most grateful along with all the regular givers who give by standing order on a monthly basis. The Income and Expenditure figures are included on page 8 and these show we are struggling although we do have Reserves that will see us through in the short term. Our outgoings remain fairly consistent whereas our Income has dropped substantially particularly in the Freewill Offering and Open Plate areas. We have also suffered with our buildings being in lockdown and this has resulted in a loss of income of £2,000 per month from the Outside Agencies who use our halls.

As you know we also recently set up another way of giving to the church via PayPal. This has started very successfully as you can see from the figures attached. The link to this option can be found on the Church website and will also be posted periodically on the Church Facebook page. Thanks to everyone who has so far used this option.

We continue to look at ways that we can save money and we have recently secured a deal with British Telecom that will result in substantial savings for the church phone and internet lines.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me if I can assist anyone at this time.

Stay Safe and Take Care.

Regards

Jim Kerr, Church Treasurer

Income and Expenditure – as at 24th May 2020 (£)

	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY (UNTIL 24/5/20)</u>
<u>GENERAL INCOME</u>					
FWO	831	1,244	621	195	467
OPEN PLATE	542	713	279	NIL	NIL
GIFT AID	5,452	6,429	5,534	5,246	6,275
PAYPAL	NIL	NIL	NIL	15	395
OTHER GENERAL INCOME	1,686	2,437	1,948	NIL	457
Furlough	NIL	NIL	NIL	1,686	AWAITED
TOTAL	8,511	10,823	8,382	7,142	7,594
<u>GENERAL EXPENDITURE</u>					
MISSION AND MINISTRIES	NIL	8,485	8,485	8,485	8,485
PRESBYTERY DUES	NIL	NIL	1,527	NIL	NIL
STAFF SALARIES	2,430	1,998	2,153	1,997	1,997
CHURCH INSURANCE	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	3,257
OTHER EXPENDITURE	1,377	1,871	4,255	701	4,108
TOTAL	3,807	12,354	16,420	11,183	17,847

A Tale of Butterflies and Doves

You can take the girl out of the pulpit but you can't take the pulpit out of the girl! When I realised I wouldn't be preaching on Easter Sunday this year, I felt I had to do something, so I decided to tell the story of Holy Week pictorially in the window of my porch; which is passed daily by many dog walkers. On Easter Sunday I festooned the windows with butterflies, an ancient Christian symbol of resurrection, new life and hope. At the gate I put a tin of wrapped chocolate eggs inviting passers-by to take one and remember the real Easter story. At the end of the day over 50 eggs were taken!

The plan was to take the display down after Easter, but a wee girl passes on her daily walk insisting she passes the butterfly house and a young lad with additional support needs stops to look at them too. But they will fly away on Pentecost Sunday to be replaced by doves and tongues of fire. I cannot help feeling that this year we have experienced what the first followers felt. After the glory of the resurrection they hid in their homes in fear of their lives but at Pentecost the Spirit came and released them from their fears. We'll begin to be eased out of lockdown just before Pentecost and once again the Spirit will move.

Lynne Robertson Reader



Greetings from the Guild

Our last meeting at the beginning of March was our Hostess Tea with entertainment from the excellent Arietta Choir and that is a good memory for all of us to have although it may seem such a long time ago. However from our wee group of telephone volunteers we have been keeping in touch and it has been so good to hear of the support many of us have had from our family, friends and neighbours. There have been many lovely stories shared by proud grandmothers and of previous working lives as well as how we are managing with shopping, social distancing and use of technology as well as our appreciation of how the trees, flowers and birdsong have seemed extra special this year.

Sadly, there have been bereavements too and our deepest sympathies are extended to those who have lost a loved one especially when we are unable to follow the usual customs and traditions associated with loss and with funerals.

Although Guild activities have temporarily ceased and we have missed the Big Sing and there will be no Annual Gathering this September there is now a weekly e-letter from Guild Office to keep us up to date with news and help us to continue to share in the fellowship of the Guild. If you haven't subscribed to this please do or I could forward this to you if you wish. Locally, the committee have prepared a provisional syllabus for our next session starting with a get together celebration on 7th September. We hope that we will be able to meet then and share our stories of the "lockdown". We have also been asked to host the Autumn Guilds Together meeting in October when we will meet up with other members from neighbouring Guilds. In the meantime the telephone volunteers will continue to keep in touch and I am sure you would wish me to extend our thanks to them for this valuable contribution. Our thanks also go to Ian and all the folks involved in keeping us in touch with our Church.

To all our members and all the congregation please stay safe, stay well and cheery and let us all pray that soon we will be able to return to a more normal life.

Ellen Robertson, Convenor

268 Glasgow Boys' Brigade

As with everything, we have had an unexpected end to the year but we have quickly adapted to the 'new normal' for the BB. All sections have been working through the BBatHome resources that BB nationally have been producing on a weekly basis. It has been great to see our Boys getting involved in these activities in our Facebook group.

Pre-lockdown, the company was running our usual weekly activities and special events at Christmas and Halloween. Anchor Boys have had a visit from Cool Creatures, had a Secret Agent night and a beach party. Junior Section took part in the battalion 'Kip on a Ship' and hosted the district games night in February. Company Section have had their Christmas night out at Laserquest and a visit from the MSYP BB representative to seek their views on various issues.

P3 and P6 Boys have had their visit to the Junior and Company Section respectively. It is looking increasingly likely we won't be able to meet them as usual after the summer but watch this space for plans on how the company will be running in the new term.

Many of our usual events have been postponed since March and these will be rescheduled at some point soon.

Finally, two Boys Greg Lockhart and Callum Ross have earned their President's Badge this session and will be presented with this at the earliest opportunity and start to work towards their Queen's Badge after that.

We wish everyone in the church the best and thank Ian, the Session, Board and congregation for all their support this session.

John Armour, Captain



On behalf of my son Derek, my daughter-in-law Pamela and myself I would like to thank everyone in the congregation for all the lovely condolence cards, letters and flowers which were sent at the time of our sad bereavement. We would like a special thank you to Rev Ian Taylor for all the time he spent guiding us through all the restrictions due to the current situation and for giving an uplifting service.

Nan Edmiston

Zoom Part 1 – The Praise Team

They say that every day's a school day. Never was this truer than during the first week of social distancing. Almost immediately after most workplaces closed their doors half of the world's employees were propelled into a steep learning curve as we endeavoured to find entirely new methods to undertake our daily work.

It is often the case that certain innovations triumph in times of crisis. In the First World War they had the tank, in the Second the atomic bomb and in Coronavirus Pandemic we have Zoom. If you are like me, you had probably never even heard of this video conferencing software before March 2020. Nonetheless I suspect that Zoom must surely be one of the few companies experiencing a booming stock price. More importantly it has become a lifeline for communication in organisations that are unable to meet as they usually have.

Springfield Cambridge Praise Team rehearses on Thursday evenings. Since April we have continued these rehearsals via Zoom. I "host" the meeting and invite the other members by email. I'm glad to report that most members have been attending regularly although very sadly some do not have sufficient hardware or technical confidence to participate. However, some of these have managed to contribute "second hand" via speakerphone at other members' houses.



We meet for around 45 minutes and sing the hymn for the online Sunday service and other related items. The inherent latency (time lag) in the internet makes it impossible as yet to actually sing and hear one another simultaneously. We attempted it once and the result was cacophonous. So instead the members mute their own microphones and sing or play along with me on screen. It is far from musically ideal but it brings us all great joy to meet and share together. For added interest some of the members have entertained with songs and recitals.

Despite the artificial nature of computer chat we have all been deeply encouraged and sometimes moved by the opportunity that Zoom has afforded us to continue our musical fellowship. I hope that when we can meet and once more enjoy the joy of physical musical collaboration, I will take it far less for granted. For now though the Zoom experience is reminding me weekly that the church truly is the people.

Alan A Craig, Musical Director

Zoom Part 2 – 65th Girls' Brigade

We hope this finds you all safe and well. Prior to the lockdown the girls had all completed their badge work and were working towards their display when the decision was made by Girls Brigade Scotland to close companies in early March. Keeping the girls safe and well was our main priority but keeping contact with the girls was important. So, with the help of Facebook we set some company challenges including a stay home stay safe poster competition and an Easter bonnet parade. We have since progressed to a ZOOM meeting on a Tuesday night with girls logging in to chat with each other and leaders and join in some fun activities including a scavenger hunt, play your cards right, guessing games, a quiz run by one of our older girls Kelsey and lots more. Our newest challenge is to record the girls singing to enter the divisional virtual display which Beth, our new young leader is coaching us on. Perhaps we could let you all hear it at some point. Unfortunately, our Explorers trip and Junior and Brigader camp have also been cancelled but we hope to do some fun, at home activities relating to this in the coming weeks.



We know the girls were disappointed that our session ended so abruptly; however, given the extremely difficult circumstances we have all found ourselves in, the leaders are very proud of the way the girls have managed and continue to involve themselves as members of the 65th Girls' Brigade company.

We will be back for our new session as soon as we return to some sort of normality but, in the meantime, we are sending all the congregation our best wishes. Stay Safe.

Katie Byrne, Captain

Flower Calendar

JULY

Distributors: Mrs H Wilson and Mrs C Smith

Donors:

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Distributors:

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Springfield Cambridge Church

Our weekly Worship Services remain online at 11am on a Sunday via our Website (www.springfieldcambridge.org.uk), through our YouTube channel and Face book page.



Next issue of The Record will be the August issue

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