



Cairneyhill Church Newsletter



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 11th December 11:30 am	Nine Lessons & Carols	CH/ZM
Sunday 18th December 11:30 am	“The Christmas Movie”	CH/ZM
Saturday 24th December 6:30 pm	Christingle Family Service*	CH/ZM
Saturday 24th December 11:30 pm	Watchnight from Limekilns~	ZM
Sunday 25th December 9:30 am	Christmas Morning Gathering	CH

CH – in church ZM – on Zoom

*Christingle Zoom Meeting ID: **863 4780 1909**; Passcode: **856281**

~Watchnight Zoom Meeting ID: **819 8558 2898** Passcode: **348152**

The Nine Lessons & Carols service will be led by the Queen Anne Singers. The Christmas Movie service will be led by KACH. The watchnight service is being held in Limekilns Church but will be available on Zoom and will be shown on screen in Cairneyhill Church.

Message from the Minister

Dear friends,

At this time of year many conversations within families involve a common question: “What would you like for Christmas?”

I am reliably informed that I am a difficult person to buy presents for. My two stock answers are not in the least helpful. I either say that I don't need anything, or I suggest a sports car would be nice. To be honest, neither of these suggestions helps my family. The first answer is true, but unhelpful. The second answer is in fun, and impossible.



If we think in terms of the world, there are needs. There is the need for peace. The harm that conflict and violence causes has certainly marked this year. We have seen the pictures from Ukraine. The suffering of places like Somalia is made worse by conflict. There is the need for justice. The great divide between rich and poor, within nations and between nations, causes great harm. There is the need to care for creation.

We have seen the effects of climate change in the extremes of weather this year.

We sometimes find people challenging our faith in God by asking why God doesn't do something to sort out humanity. Implicit within this is the idea that God simply observes. The answer is that God has done and is doing something.



Christmas is not a children's story. Christmas is not a mid-winter party. Christmas is not about tinsel and glitter. Certainly not about the rampant consumerism of the last few decades. Jesus is born into this world to bring God's love to us, to change hearts and minds, to be our salvation. Christmas is God's gift. Christmas is the answer to human need. Here is the offer of peace, justice and loving care... if we are ready to receive the gift that is Jesus.

I wish you all of God's blessings through Advent and on into a new year.

Yours, Norman



Blythswood Care Appeal

In November a huge total of 75 filled shoeboxes was sent to Blythswood Care who will transport them to Eastern Europe in time for Christmas. We also sent £190 in donations towards transportation and to support the work of Blythswood Care.

Pictured are some of the beautiful boxes which were blessed and despatched. Huge thanks to everyone from Cairneyhill and Limekilns Churches who donated.



A special shout out to 1st Cairneyhill Brownies and Margaret Duffy for their donations.

Our Facilities

Inside the Church

The project to refurbish the interior of the church was completed last Christmas, just in time to allow Christmas services to be held. This year we have improved our sound system and we have installed solar panels and batteries allowing the Air Source Heat Pumps to run with a minimum of electricity from the grid. This is another important step in our goal to reduce the carbon footprint of our buildings.



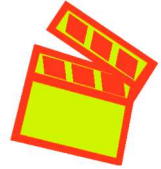
The church is being used by several community groups for their meetings including The Queen Anne Singers choir, the community council and a popular Yoga class. The annual primary school discos were held in the church and proved very popular and successful.

At the moment the building is still available for hire most mornings and afternoons and some evenings for group meetings, group activities or private parties/celebrations.

Contact George White (Tel: 01383 269355) if interested in booking.

Community Cinema!

Plans are in hand to run a 3-month trial of Community Cinema facility in the church in the New Year making use of the new sound system and tech available. The aim is to show popular films for all in the community to enjoy. We are in the early stages of making this happen.



If anyone is interested in helping or has experience of something similar, please contact Doug Hay (email: doug.hay@btinternet.com)

Manse Meeting Rooms

The manse building continues to be used by community and church groups. We would like to upgrade it in a similar way to the church, and, if funds allow, add new features. Some of the ideas suggested so far include, a community café, improved larger meeting rooms, but please feel free to make other suggestions!

Contact Doug Hay (doug.hay@btinternet.com)

The Garden

The church garden has been renovated and altered to free up the main space as a grassed area. The Gala committee organised the Gala Garden Party back in June of this year and the church celebrated the church renovations by holding a BBQ in August. We would encourage other community groups to make use of the garden area for outdoor activities and social events.

Contact George White (Tel: 01383 269355) if interested in booking.



Compassion Sponsorship

Cairneyhill Church has been involved with Compassion Sponsorship for many years. Here is the latest news from each of our three current children:

SHAMMAH is 14 years old and lives in Kenya, He says he is busy and committed at school. He joined class 8 earlier this year and will be sitting his final national exam at the end of the year. He asks for our prayers. He thanks us for his birthday gift, and he bought exercise books, pens and fertilizer. Shammah's dream is to become a doctor in the future. He loves us and thanks God for us for being his good dear friend.

MIREYA is 13 years old and lives in Peru. She thanks us for her gifts. She enjoys playing volleyball. We haven't received a letter from Mireya recently but are assured she is well. However, Mireya asks us to pray for her mom because she is sick.

KERRY is 11 years old and lives in the coastal community of Anse-Rouge in Haiti. He says he is very fine and his family and friends are very fine thanks to God. He thanks us for his birthday gift. His mom bought pants and a nice pair of shoes for him. He thanks us for all our support and continued assistance and asks for our prayers to make him successful in school and live well in health. He will help us pray so that God will protect us.



Why not support Compassion yourself?

- You can sponsor a child for a specific month – Sponsorship is £28 per month. Contact Elaine Morris (881713) for information.
- You can contribute to the church-sponsored kids via the donation box in the Vestibule at church, by putting an envelope in the collection plate marked " Harry Westwood Disadvantaged Child Fund", or by online banking. The church bank details are in our weekly intimations sheet on the website and on Facebook

KACH



Kids at Church (KACH) aims to bring the Bible to life using the latest tech as well as some old favourites. KACH meets on the first Sunday of most months* starting off in church at 11.30am. To prepare for the Children's Christmas Service KACH will run weekly from 27th November until 11th December.

* Not in January

Christmas Shopping

Online shopping may be a fact of life but remember all our local businesses too – why not give them a try?



Church Groups

We have a Walking Group, a Cycling Club, a Banner Group and a Book Club. Please contact us via our Facebook Page for more information.



Find us on Facebook



Money Matters

This newsletter is a great opportunity for me to give a huge THANK YOU to all our members and friends for their continued extremely generous financial support of our Church including the tremendous donations made last month on our 'Gift Day'. Next, I would wish to thank again all who worked all during the year in preparing the amazing craft goods which were displayed for sale by donations at the Church's annual Christmas Craft Fayre on the 5th November. Also all who helped in the setting up, the sale of craft items, the sale of raffle tickets and the sale of teas and coffees which resulted again in an extremely successful fund-raising event by raising £1,087 so far!

As mentioned on page 2, Should your organisation or activity wish to view the Church or Manse Meeting Rooms or wish further information please contact myself on 07949 596559 or email georgewhite643@gmail.com

George White, Treasurer

Taste and See



How is your health? Sometimes gym clubs offer "taster sessions" for a trial period before you make a commitment.

There is a verse in one of the Psalms in the Bible that says, "Taste and see that the Lord is good." We came along to the church here as 'newcomers' recently to "taste and see".

From entering the door we found a welcoming, friendly and accepting body of people. Very informal, no airs and graces, we have been made to feel part of this church 'family'.

As well as physical health, there has been a lot of talk about mental health but we need to look after our spiritual health too. Why not come to a "taster session"?

Come and taste that the church is good. Indeed come and taste that the Lord is good. We have.

Alasdair & Maureen Campbell

Cairneyhill and Crossford Quilting and Craft Group

*~Sewing~Patchwork~Quilting~Knitting~Crochet
~Embroidery~Felting~Card-making*

If you enjoy any or all of these why not come along and meet like-minded folk and have a chat? Bring your own project along!

We meet every Wednesday from 1pm – 3pm in the Manse Meeting Rooms, 5 Main Street

*Information from: Dorothy Downie 9881379),
Chris Johnson (880110) or Kate Durkacz
(722186)*



**Follow our theme this Advent and Christmas
– Finding Time for:
PEACE*STILLNESS*LOVE*OTHERS*WORSHIP**

Minister Rev Norman Grant (Tel 01383 872341)



Cairneyhill Church www.cairneyhillchurch.org.uk [SCO SCO12892]