

Faith and Fellowship

The Quarterly Magazine for Ardeer/Livingstone Linkage



Issue No. 85

MARCH 2020



Editor's Letter



Welcome to the March edition of Faith and Fellowship. This will be my fourth edition of the church magazine which means I've come full circle! There have been a few changes under my tenure so far. The magazine is now joint between Ardeer and Livingstone and the name of the magazine has changed to reflect this.

The minister has been unwell for the past month or so and as a result we've had a few guest speakers, namely Mr. Douglas Creighton and the Rev. Robert Travers. I always enjoy listening to speakers beyond the norm as they bring a different flow to the service. A change, as they say, is as good as a break. Hopefully the minister will be back in good health by the time you are reading this.

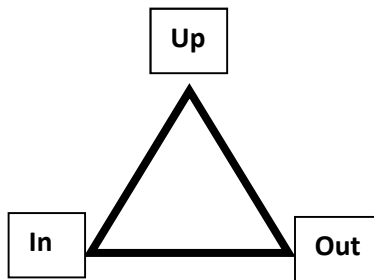
It would appear that our linkage is facing a period of transition in the coming months and years. While I do not know exactly what the future holds for us, in line with this edition's 'Views From the Pews' topic, it is certainly something for us to consider personally and pray about. Mr. Tomlinson recently distributed a Prayer Plan to the congregation to help develop the discipline of prayer. Sunday at the Manse has also been looking at developing a more active prayer life within our community and I look forward to seeing how these initiatives develop.

The period of Easter is fast approaching and before that is, of course, the period of Lent. Other Christian sects seem to pay more attention to this part of the calendar than we ourselves do but the idea of giving up something or fasting remains a strong tradition across all Abrahamic religions. So perhaps there is more to it than we give it credit for. In the past I have given up various things for Lent. One year it was meat, much to my mother's annoyance, and another it was caffeine which was when I discovered that I quite enjoy herbal teas and decaffeinated coffee. Perhaps we shouldn't look at Lent as giving something up but as an opportunity to try alternatives. At any rate it certainly helps to focus on the coming of Easter at the end of Lent, even if it just means you are once more allowed your tea and steak.

Prayer Thoughts



As the idea of union begins to move towards reality the need for prayer is stronger than ever. Though the process will be a strong focus for prayer, we mustn't forget the need for prayer building our relationship with God to make us more effective in our witness and prayer for those who still haven't accepted the gospel or those who are finding ordinary everyday life difficult. A model that can be summed up by using this triangle:



Where '**up**' is prayer time spent improving our relationship with God and seeking guidance, '**in**' concerns praying for God's Church, the fellowship of believers, and '**out**' has a focus on praying for those outwith that Church.

Hopefully you will have seen and used the 'Prayer Framework' recently circulated in the church which will offer prayer prompts for the year with special prayer weeks for Easter and Christmas. In addition join with the millions of Christians across the world who will use the 'Thy Kingdom Come' website which will have a special focus between 21 – 31 May. 'thykingdomcome.global' will have a series of short videos for each day during that period to help focus our prayers.

So, echoing Paul's urging to the Thessalonians in his first letter at verse 17 of chapter 5; '**Keep on praying**'

Themes

Approach: come before God humbly but in the knowledge you are there at His invitation.

Confession: review your prayer life and ask God to forgive it's weaknesses.



Thanksgiving:

- Ministry – give thanks for Dave Sutherland and his ministry with us and Brian Devlin in his role.
- Organisations – give thanks for the organisations who meet within our buildings.
- Pantomime – give thanks for the continuing enthusiasm of the group and the the funds they raise for Christian Aid
- Use of IT – give thanks for flexibility this allows and the outreach it offers via the church website.

Intercession:

- Prayer Life – pray that there will be a re invigoration of the churches prayer life.
- Unification – pray that the process to unification will be carried out prayerfully .
- Easter – pray that the meaning of Easter will not be lost in commercialism.
- Stevenston – pray that the churches will be able to respond to the needs of the townspeople, particularly those suffering hardship.

Session Clerk's Letter

There is a limited amount of Session news for this magazine due partly to the fact that we did not have a February meeting as Dave is off ill. I can report that Dave is on the mend and we hope and pray that he continues to improve and will be able to return to work soon.

Since the last magazine we have had a very successful Christmas Fair. It was agreed that the money raised would be used to replace the curtains with vertical blinds, in the large hall and the Session Room. This work is well under way and by the time you read this all blinds should be fitted. The Session are extremely grateful to everyone who helped and supported in making the fair a success.

The Kirk Session received letters from Robbie Burns and David Frew, indicating that they no longer felt able to serve as active elders. On behalf of the Session and the congregation, I would like to acknowledge the long and diligent service both gentlemen have given to the church over many years.

At the January meeting all rolls and records were attested, ready to be presented to Presbytery, in February. I was unable to take these along due to being away on holiday and I would like to extend my thanks to Kay Tudor, Ardeer Session Clerk for taking the rolls and records of both churches to the meeting in Ardrossan.



No meeting in February has not delayed the building work to be done within the roof space of the church, as we have not yet received the results of the tender process. We are hopeful that we should have these very soon and that the work will be able to progress as quickly as possible. It does mean that we will be worshipping in the hall for the foreseeable future.

Sandy Hershaw (Livingstone Session Clerk)

Livingstone Finance Report



Hopefully by the time you read this the Annual Report and receipts and Payments Accounts for 2019 will have been approved by Session and our Examiner. It will be passed on to Presbytery for examination and then to the General Trustees in Edinburgh. That will only leave OSCR to be placated but I won't need to do that before the summer.

Here's a summary of the end of year balances as at (31/12/2019)

Fund	Receipts	Payments	Balance
General	50935	49461	3872
Fabric	2509	4287	4746
Designated	1136	553	3152
Restricted	5804	3337	8403
Beneficiary	0	0	105435
Joseph Little	0	0	39691
Flower	0	0	2371
James White	0	0	590

Over the year the General Fund gained by £1500 mainly due to a small increase in donations and reduced energy costs. The Fabric Fund fell by £1000 principally due to the Survey cost for the roof (£1100). The Livingstone Players monies is now under Restricted rather than Designated. The other funds vary according to their investment value but no assets were bought or sold in 2019.

Our cash balance was £17132 of which £5207 was Livingstone Players and £1300 for the Hall Blinds project. This is well within the Session guidelines to hold two months expenses in cash. Note that this is the high point of our cash balance and it will decrease through to November

For 2020 the prospects financially are to say the least uncertain. We have an undetermined amount for the roof repairs. We have an interest free loan from the General Trustees of £220,000 (for

the new Manse). This arrangement will end at some point this year. We no longer get rate rebate on the old manse and are still financially responsible for its upkeep until it is sold which again is uncertain.

Finlay Kerr (Livingstone Treasurer)

Union



In thinking about the Union, we have a responsibility and calling to carry out the Great Commission of Matthew 28:19;

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

In January 2020, the Kirk Sessions agreed to move to unite both congregations as quickly as possible and sought Presbytery’s assistance. There are several things that need to happen: naming the new congregation, considering worship times, sorting out the liabilities that the elder’s carry as elder and as Charity Trustees. We also need to manage both buildings. The reality is that a lot has happened since the last Presbytery Plan. We cannot afford both buildings, neither of which are fit for purpose for church today. The General Assembly has implemented a Radical Action Plan which involves reducing the scale of central church, reducing the number of Presbyteries from 43 to 12 and looking to reduce the size of Kirk Sessions. There is no longer the financial ability to maintain as many buildings as there are, nor manage the current number of ministers. There’s no point saying that the church just needs to recruit more ministers: firstly, there aren’t enough people coming forward for ministry and secondly there aren’t the financial resources to maintain them. The number of church members is reducing. In short: we can’t go on the way we, as church, have because it is no longer sustainable.



There will be a congregational vote and there needs to be a formal Basis of Union established. Whilst there was a suggested timescale, that is no longer viable, but the Union will be this year. Buildings will take longer to deal with.

Dave.



Ardeer Guild



The Guild continues to meet every Monday in Ardeer Church Hall.

The second half of our session has been very busy with lots of interesting speakers and activities.

Bob Johnstone told us about the work of the RNLI and Robert Deans told us about the Salvation Army.

Lorna Harris visited us again and everyone enjoyed the chance to improve their fitness with Chair Exercises.

It was good to see Brian Murray again and hear of his trip to the Holy Land.

Before the end of the session we look forward to hearing from Sandy Hershaw, Barbara Graham from Marie Curie and Neil Smith from Hearing Dogs.



Livingstone Guild



Since the beginning of this new decade, the guild has had a busy programme.

In January we do not have any speakers in case of problems with bad weather and difficult journeys. On January 7th we had our New Year lunch at the Corner House Restaurant in Kilwinning

which was enjoyed by all. On 14th January we watched the DVD of the Gathering of the National Guild at the Caird Hall in Dundee last September. It is always good to hear the Moderator of the General Assembly and be able to put a face to a name and we always enjoy the hymn singing. January 21st was our annual tribute to Robert Burns in song, poetry and traditional fayre and on 28th January we held our Bring and Buy Sale in aid of the Guild Projects.

Jean Todd was our speaker on 4th February and her subject was 'Growing up with Granny'. She said she enjoyed giving this talk in Stevenston as we would all know the places and many of the people she was talking about. On 11th February we were due to have Lorna Harris from Ardeer Church who was going to put us through our paces with chair exercises. Unfortunately, Lorna had contracted a bug and was unable to come. Hopefully we can rearrange her visit for 3rd March. Instead we discussed the Guild Topic for this session. We will welcome Evelyn Porter from North Parish Church to talk to us on Church Humour, on February 18th. This visit was postponed from September 17th due to electrical problems in our Church and halls.

On February 25th Rebecca McGonigle from World Mission will tell us all about our second project of the session entitled 'Empowering young mothers in Zambia'. These girls need to continue their education so that they can get paid employment to support their children.

On March 10th, we are doing something completely different. Instead of the Clydeside Singers coming to Stevenston to give us a concert, we are going to join them in their Tuesday afternoon rehearsal at the Little Sisters of the Poor in Greenock. We will arrive at 1pm and the practice finishes at 2.30pm when we will be served tea.

On March 17th Brian Devlin will talk to us about his work in Stevenston -Livingstone and Ardeer

And on 24th March we will welcome Isobel Lind from Greenock whose subject is . . .

London, Paris and New York as a Heidie!! This should be both interesting and enjoyable!

March 31st is the date for our AGM and Easter Service. April 7th, Tuesday of Holy Week we will hold our annual Daffodil Tea at 1.30pm in the hall. All Welcome.

Questions Answered

Several months ago, a small group of people from both congregations identified that there were questions around issues of union and the way forward, some leading to misinformation. To deal with this, they suggested that an event could be held which will allow everyone to ask their questions and have them answered. With Dave's blessing, this was taken to the joint Kirk Session and agreed. Two elders were appointed to oversee the process, and this was taken to the Learning Community who have brought the thing together.

From Sunday 16th February 2020, there will be a box in both charges with cards and pens and everyone is invited to write down their question: there is no need to put your name against the question. These boxes will be there for 5 Sundays, being removed on Sunday 15th March. This allows the Learning Community to group the questions together and begin drawing up answers which will be presented after the shared worship on Sunday 29th March. At the tea and coffee after the services, everyone has an opportunity, sitting at tables, to talk and add any other question they may wish to put forward.

Every effort will be made to ensure that as many of these questions as possible are answered.

Dave.

Enjoying January Celebrations with the Brownies



I paid a visit to the Brownies recently. Pat Gray had asked me to take the girls for some set dancing and ceilidh dances as part of their celebrations for Burns' birthday. Pat has been very ably assisted by Ann Norwood for many years. Also helping them at the moment are a trainee young leader and a young helper. There are approximately twenty-four Brownies on the roll but on that night there were 18 Brownies present.

As is the usual format, the Brownies stood ready in their sixes and each group skipped in while singing their own specific song round a toadstool, and under an arch to form a circle. Pat told them about the plan for the evening and I was then introduced. The girls were very enthusiastic and quickly picked up the dances including the 'Charlestown Chaser' and 'A reel for Jeanie.' Also on the programme were some well-known round the room dances such as the 'Canadian Barn Dance' and the 'Military Two Step'. Most of the Brownies had already learned these for their Christmas parties in school so were able to really enjoy them because the dances were familiar. While we were doing the dances, the leaders were busy preparing the supper of oatcakes, crackers and cheese, along with shortbread and of course Irn Bru to drink.

The brownies gathered round the tables without any fuss and while they were enjoying the food, they chatted away to each

other. I was most impressed that there was no nonsense so the leaders were able to enjoy their own chat and refreshment without interruption.

I learned their programme this session had also included the Chinese New Year and a visit to Bonnie Leslie Court to perform their Nativity.

The evening ended all too soon with the Brownies in a ring singing 'O Lord our God,'

Catherine Reid.



A huge thank you to everyone for helping to make our 2019 pantomime, Mother Goose, a great success. The four night sell out run was once again exhausting but extremely rewarding for all the cast. Putting on the pantomime each year is a massive undertaking and it quite simply wouldn't be possible without the army of volunteers who help to make the show a success. Thank you to all those who helped at the shop, programme sellers, those who looked after the junior cast, designed the scenery, built props, emptied the bins and swept the floor. The list of names is endless!



Everyone had great fun rehearsing and performing on stage but you - the audience - are as much a part of the cast as the players themselves. Your attendance each year is invaluable; hopefully to enjoy a great night's entertainment and of course enabling us all to raise money for Christian Aid. This year we are

delighted to be able to send £3200.00 so thank you all for playing your part and supporting us. Remember to check our website – www.livingstoneplayers.org.uk - for details of our upcoming production. Preparations are already underway for our 2020 pantomime . . . Oh Yes They Are!

Livingstone Players



Prayer

Prayer is a part of our relationship with God: it's how we communicate with Him, sharing what we feel we need to share with Him and taking time to listen to His voice. Like the disciples, there are people who have asked about how to pray. In January and February, we've been looking at the Lord's Prayer and the Prayer Course has been running at Sunday Night at the Manse. On Saturday 28th March 2020, there will be a training day for Little Houses of prayer to help people come together to pray. This will be open to other congregations and followed up by running the Blessings Course at Sunday Night at the Manse. The training day will be run in the hall at Livingstone Church and will be from 10am to 4pm. Further information will be available soon.



Prayer leaflets have been developed and distributed to the congregations to assist with personal devotions. These have been developed by a member of the congregation who is part of the Learning Community.

Dave.



Views from the Pews



Recently, we have been looking at prayer and a Prayer Plan was handed out to members of the congregation. An Easter Prayer Plan has even been included in this issue! Hence here we are, having a look at prayer.

I am not very good at praying. Most of the time I am distracted by other events or tasks I have to perform. When I do pray of my own accord, it tends to be caused by some pressing issue like an upcoming exam, a troubled friend or the release of a new magazine edition. I very much subscribed to the idea that I had to be in the right frame of mind to pray, which really only further limited the times I did so.

At the turn of the new year, I was invited to attend an Alpha course by a friend. One of their sessions focused on prayer. I found a particular speaker from one of their video presentations challenged my previous approach to prayer. To paraphrase:

We do not need to be in a certain mood to pray. Whether we are worried, tired, frustrated or joyful, the secret is to realise that even the most negative feelings can be a fuel for prayer. Just start by focusing on the most dominant feeling in your heart and express the reasons for it to The Lord. Transforming these feelings, positive or negative, into prayer. We can pray all the time.

- Brother Luigi Gioia, Benedictine Monk, Alpha Film Series Episode 05: Why and How Do I Pray

This was a different approach from my own, having tried it I found it more liberating and I suddenly have fewer reasons not to pray.

I am not very good at praying but that's ok. I can pray about that and go from there.

Alan Kerr.

Prayer has always been an important part on my faith, but recently I have been reflecting about how I pray? After reading the book 'The Grace Outpouring' by Roy Godwin and Dave Roberts, I started to really think about prayer and what it really meant to me. Having a quiet time to reflect on my day, family and those around me as well as looking beyond my locality and the needs of others. To thank God for all he has given me and to listen for his voice.

We need to learn to talk to God the way we would talk to a loving, caring Father, for this is what He is (John 16:23-27).

The more I read I am more convinced that prayer does not need complicated language, simple words to someone we know loves us. The 'Prayer Leaflet' that was developed by Andrew Tomlinson and distributed at church is an excellent starting point to use.



Susan Gibson

The day war was declared on 3rd September 1939, my mother visited our grandparents. At that time, she had my sister, aged 12, and my brother, aged 8 years old. Previously, she had visited the doctor to be told her symptoms were caused by the menopause and then to be told that she was six months pregnant, which as you can imagine, was a great shock!

After her visit to my grandparents she returned home to discover my father dead, having committed suicide. At my father's funeral the minister told my mother she would need: "A gey stout heart for a gey sty brae".

I was born in November 1939 after a difficult birth. We stayed with my grandparents during the war years and I was brought up to always say my prayers and The Lord would give me the strength to get through the difficulties that came my way.

As I grew up, I used to listen to other children talking about their fathers. My grandparents were wonderful but it wasn't quite the same as having my own father. One day something had been said at school which had really upset me, and as I walked home crying I felt a presence as if someone had put an arm round me and the thought came into my head that I have always treasured: you may not have an earthly father but you have a "Heavenly Father". I have never forgotten that feeling and when hard times have come, as come they will, I always pray to my Heavenly Father to give me the strength and wisdom to deal with the difficulties we meet. My mother was a constant inspiration to me with the way she dealt with adversity and put her trust in The Lord and He never failed her or me. All my life I have been surrounded by love from my husband, our family and lovely friends!

God Bless You.



Thoughts on Prayer

The request for the contribution was the cause of some thought on the matter. Prayer is such a commonplace terminology that in reality, it probably does not get the thought it should. That's one reason why I appreciated the recent 'Prayer Framework', produced by Andrew Tomlinson.

On a temporal level, prayer to me, means taking a quiet moment to analyse recent events and actions, put them into context of what could or should be and then, determining future course of action to make good or follow through desired intentions. Time to think in other words BUT with conscience, allowing the process of what is good and right to prevail over what is undesired and unhelpful.

To me, the conscience bit is the spiritual level, what God is saying. The process being to have actions guided by principles. What prevents regular prayer activity? Lives seem so busy nowadays, although the 'nowadays' is relative to each passing and advancing period of time. We may spend hours on social media or viewing telly but I suspect our forebears had equal distractions on this particular question. The likely truth is, the more that is put into the discipline of regular prayer, the more rewarding the outcome.

So, if nothing else, I will endeavour to do so, aided by the prayer framework.

Ken Gibson



Youth Group

The Youth Group continues to provide lots of fun, and a great place for young people to meet, make friends and explore the spiritual side of church life in a way relevant to them. We have had our three evenings in the High Kirk, we are currently meeting in Livingstone Church and then April to June we meet at Ardeer.



We have a steady 15 who come along on the third Sunday of the month to enjoy the activities. We have been advertising in the schools to bring in new people. If you know of anyone in the Primary 6 – S4 age group then please let them know about the Youth Group. The dates from now to Summer are;

Sunday 15th March in Livingstone Church Hall and the remaining three in Ardeer Church Hall on Sunday 19th April, 17th May and 21st June. We meet from 6.30 – 8.30.

Courtesy of the funding from Cash for Kids the Youth Group had a great Christmas night out at the Garage in Kilmarnock with a game of bowling and a meal.

Ardeer Children's Church

Since the last newsletter was printed, we have had a busy time at the Children's Church. This year's Nativity Play was the Alphabet Nativity. It went through the alphabet from A – Z whilst also going through the Nativity from start to finish so it started with ANGELS, and Mary going to BETHLEHEM because of the CENSUS. Of course, she had to travel on a DONKEY . . . I'm sure you get the idea. The children and all the adults involved did a great job and it was a lovely service.



The Christmas Party was great fun. Thank you to John who came with his music and ran the games and dancing which they all really enjoyed. Thanks to funding from CASH for KIDS and donations from members of the congregation we had lots to eat, we even had Pizza delivered this year which was very popular! We've been delighted with the number of children who have been coming along on a Sunday morning and they've all joined in the songs, stories and crafts. Even the little ones enjoy the actions to the songs.

We would like to thank members of the congregation, and the guild, for their support throughout the year. It really is appreciated.

Cash for Kids

We received £470 from Cash for Kids to help us with our activities for Christmas for the Youth Club and the Children's Christmas Parties. This allowed us to buy all the selection boxes which were larger than we would normally be able to afford. It paid for the Youth Club Christmas Outing to the Garage in Kilmarnock and there was money left over to help towards the food for the Christmas Party.

A huge THANK YOU to Cash for Kids as, without their funding, we would not have been able to provide such a good Christmas for the children.

Sunny Florida

Since Alan, the editor thought we would have limited Session News, he suggested we write an article about our recent winter sun holiday when we did a fly drive of the Gulf Coast of Florida.



When you mention Florida people immediately think Mickey Mouse and theme parks. Neither of these featured in our time away, but what we did see was an abundance of amazing wildlife, conservation projects and real Florida celebrations. Florida is a beautiful state and so much more than Disney! We flew into Tampa the evening before the biggest annual celebration the city holds – The Gasparilla Pirate Festival.



Everywhere was very busy that evening but on the Saturday, the day of the festival, we have never seen a complete city so full of people attending an event. We stood out as the tourists as we were amongst the very few who were not dressed in complete pirate or pirate maiden outfits. It really was a sight to behold. The day started early with an invasion of the Pirate Ship Jose Gasparilla accompanied by a flotilla of vessels sailing into Tampa Harbour- all guns blazing and taking over the city after being given the keys by the Mayor. This festival has taken place almost every year since 1904.

Once ashore, the Captain and his Mystic Krewe celebrate their takeover of the city with a four-mile-long parade of gigantic floats and marching bands. This is the third largest parade in the USA and was attended by 300,00 onlookers. For us, this really was a colourful and enjoyable spectacle and well worth the three hours it took for the parade to pass!



Our road trip continued down the Gulf Coast for a few nights stay at the beach in Sarasota, before moving on to Marco Island which is one of 10.00 islands and mangrove islets in Everglades

National Park in south west Florida. While there, we visited the Everglades with its abundance of wetlands and wildlife. We also enjoyed a touristy exhilarating airboat ride and a swamp buggy adventure. We did this in what we thought was beautiful weather and while we were putting on sunscreen the Floridians were covering up with hoodies and jackets buttoned up to their noses!

On our return journey we stopped at picturesque Sanibel Island and Fort Myers. Sanibel Island is famous for the huge variety of shells on its beaches. A walk along the beach was not only shared with countless pelicans but also "shellers". More than half of this island is the Ding Darling Wildlife Refuge. While in Fort Myers, we visited the winter estates of Henry Ford and Thomas Edison who had been great friends for much of their lives, were neighbours here and shared a laboratory.



Before our flight home, we returned to Tampa for a few more days, during which we spent a day visiting the Florida State Fair. This was another sight to behold. The fairgrounds cover over 355 acres, with many different types of buildings, indoor and outdoor exhibits, a huge variety of ride, shows and food. We managed to resist the doughnut burgers and alligator tails! The fair is seen as an opportunity for The State to showcase its agricultural industry. Part of the fairground consists of a permanent open-air museum called Cracker Country. This was really a complete town of original buildings from Pioneer days. As we approached the church, we could hear music being played on traditional instruments which we quickly recognised as 'Scotland the Brave'. As we entered, we told the guide that we were from Scotland. When the group finished playing, she announced to everyone that there were people from Scotland present. The band leader said the tune was one of their favourites and asked if there were

words to it. When we said “Yes” she immediately invited us to go up and sing them to everyone! Needless to say, we refused as we didn’t want to spoil the concert or peoples’ day out. We did stay for a short time joining in with the group, singing many gospel hymns and choruses. This was a most enjoyable day for us and a fitting end to our time in the glorious sunshine before returning to the wind, sleet and rain of home.

Sandy and Dorothy Hershaw

A Prayer Framework: Easter Week

	Up	In	Out		
Luke Ch 22, vv32 - 46	Give thanks that we can always pray, even in the darkest times	Pray that you will remember to turn to God in dark times	Pray that our churches celebrate Christ's death and resurrection, High Kirk	Pray that pupils will hear the Easter story, Ardeer Primary	Pray that people think of Easter beyond eggs and hot cross buns
Jesus prays on the Mount of Olives					
Luke Ch 22, vv 47 - 53	Give thanks that even in betrayal, Jesus brings calm	Pray that God will strengthen you when tempted to betray Him	Pray that our churches celebrate Christ's death and resurrection, Ardeer/Livingstone	Pray that pupils will hear the Easter story, Glencaim Primary	Pray that people think of the impact Easter events had on the disciples
Jesus is betrayed and arrested					
Luke ch 22 vv 54 - 65	Give thanks we can be forgiven even when we deny Jesus	Pray that you will resist denying Jesus.	Pray that our churches celebrate Christ's death and resurrection, St John's	Pray that pupils will hear the Easter story, Haycocks Primary	Pray that people remember forgiveness is available to all
Peter denies Jesus					
Luke ch 22, v 66 – 71	Give thanks God loves and protects us when others are unjust	Pray that you will treat others justly	Pray that our churches celebrate Christ's death and resurrection, Townhead Fellowship	Pray that pupils will hear the Easter story, St John's Primary	Pray that people are prompted to want to know more about Jesus
Jesus trial before the Council					
Luke ch 23 vv 1 - 25	Give thanks that God's plan can overcome injustice	Pray that you will show others God's love	Pray that our churches celebrate Christ's death and resurrection, United Free	Pray that pupils will hear the Easter story, Auchenharvie Academy	Pray that people will be just to one another.
Jesus trial before Pilate					
Luke ch 23, vv 26 - 56	Give thanks for those who remain loyal to God	Give thanks that God gave his son as a sacrifice for our sins	Pray that our churches show God's love at Easter and throughout the year	Pray that pupils will learn of what God did by sacrificing his son.	Pray that people will think about why Jesus had to die.
Jesus' crucifixion and death					
Luke ch 24, vv 1- 12	Give thanks that Jesus rose again, conquering death.	Pray that you remember to follow Jesus example.	Pray that our churches encourage prayer and study of God's word	Pray that pupils accept the forgiveness Jesus death and resurrection bring.	Pray that people will join in celebrating the resurrection
The Resurrection					

Quiz Corner

All answers will be made available in the next issue.

Birds and Animals

1. In the blood of which animal did Joseph's brothers dip his coat?
2. What birds, according to Jesus, were sold two for a penny?
3. Which creature is associated with evil in the book of Genesis?
4. With what birds did God feed the Israelites during their time in the wilderness?
5. Which animals licked up the blood of King Ahab after his death?



Answers for Quiz Corner – December

Nativity Questions

1. We read of the coming of the magi in Matthew. (2: 1-12)
2. John the Baptist's father was called Zechariah. (Luke 1:5)
3. Quirinius was governor of Syria when Mary and Joseph went to be registered. (Luke 2:2)
4. Simeon said, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace . . ." (Luke 2:24)
5. Glory to God in the highest heaven **and on Earth peace among those whom he favours!** (Luke 2:14)

Bonus Question

No animals are mentioned as being present at the nativity.

Church Diary

Sun. 29th March Livingstone	10.30	Shared Worship (Covenant Service)
Mon. 6th April Livingstone	19.00	Holy Week Service
Tue. 7th April Ardeer	19.00	Holy Week Service
Wed. 8th April Livingstone	19.00	Holy Week Service
Thu. 9th April Ardeer	19.00	Holy Week Service (+ Sacrament)
Fri. 10th April High Kirk		Good Friday
Sun. 12th April Stevenston Point	07.00	Dawn Sunrise
Ardeer	08.00	Breakfast
Ardeer	10.30	Shared Worship (Easter)
Sun. 31st May Ardeer	10.30	Shared Worship



Stevenston Ardeer Parish Church is a registered Scottish Charity:
No. SC015397.

Stevenston Livingstone Parish Church is a registered Scottish Charity:
No. SC000452.