

Contact

Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you

*The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be
celebrated on*

Sunday 3rd October 2021

At 10.30am

This cup is the new covenant in my Blood

This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me

EK South Parish Church

October 2021

Mission Statement

By the grace of God,
In the spirit of Christ,
We are a people called by God
To live and act by His Word,
And spread the Good News
In our community and beyond.



Vision Statement

“East Kilbride South Parish is an inclusive church, it welcomes everyone, giving opportunity for their faith to be nurtured.

It builds good relationships within the whole church family and reaches out to share our life of faith in our community.

It is able to do this, in an environment where God is central, through good leadership, sharing faith together and valuing everyone.”

Getting to know you...

Interview with Archie Gardner, speaking to Sandra MacKenzie

My first interview was supposed to be with our minister Terry Taylor but unfortunately she was unwell. She and I agreed that Archie Gardner, our Session Clerk, should be the first interviewee.

Archie Gardner, Session Clerk of The South Parish Church, is a quiet man.

He is also a man who is clever, funny, sensitive and extremely self deprecating.

Archie was born and grew up in the Kingston area of Glasgow (think Kingston Bridge). He had two older brothers – Jim who was 20 years older than him and George who was 14 years older. Jim was in Egypt at the time Archie was born and was extremely embarrassed by the arrival of his new wee brother!

Archie didn't have an easy start to life. He developed mastoiditis at the age of 6 which resulted in his becoming partially deaf. This of course had major implications for his education and Archie ended up attending a junior secondary school in the days before comprehensive schools. When he was in his third (and final) year one of his friends suggested they should both attend night school and after two years Archie attained a number of O Grades (equivalent to today's National 5s)

He started work as an apprentice toolmaker with Howdens at the age of 15 and one of his outstanding memories is having to make the tea for all the other toolmakers. Archie remembers 17 tea bags in a huge billy can which he boiled for half an hour! He also remembers his fellow workers saying,

“Great cup of tea Archie.”

(Note to Rena – let's not ask Archie to make the tea for any future Ways and Means events!)

Archie should have served his apprenticeship for five years but at the age of 19 Archie was dealt another blow. His beloved mum died and Archie couldn't face staying there. The realisation was dawning that he could be more than a toolmaker. Archie got a job in the National Engineering Laboratory (NEL) in East Kilbride and became involved in work on the development of hydraulic pumps. He stayed there for ten years and that of course was the start of his association with East Kilbride.

It was while Archie was working at the NEL that he decided to join a dancing class. He remembers being asked if he wanted to learn Latin or Ballroom to which Archie's reply was,

“Eh?”!

Archie joined a formation dancing team and later he met Rose, his wife. They took part in lots of competitions in Blackpool and London and regularly appeared on Come Dancing. Who would have thought that Archie was a “Strictly” star of his day?!!!!

Archie is fiercely protective of his family's privacy but he did tell me that he and Rose got married in 1976 in Greyfriars Church in Barlanark. Archie wasn't a Christian at that time but Rose attended church regularly. They moved to East Kilbride after they married and have two children – Janine and Robert.

In 1978 Archie moved from the NEL to Rolls Royce where he stayed for 17 years until he was made redundant in 1995. He became the shop steward for his section which he hated because he had to speak up at meetings. Eventually he had the chance to transfer to a different section to escape having to speak publicly. However he found to his horror after the move that the development work he was involved in meant he had to give presentations!

Archie remembers that he wanted his son to join the Boys Brigade as he had, so Robert enrolled in the BB in the South Parish Church in 1996 and that was the start of Archie's connection with The South Parish.

Archie had been in the BB and had gone to Sunday School but he can remember that his mum didn't take him to Sunday School and how much he had wanted that. His mum played the piano and before there had been a piano in the house there had been an organ which makes Archie wonder if there had been a church connection. (Don't get too excited Barrie – Archie is adamant his mum didn't pass on that talent to him.) When it was suggested to Archie that Robert should join the Sunday School he remembered how he had felt so when Robert started Sunday School Archie started attending church. In 1999 he became an elder (he was already on the Congregational Board) and in 2005 he took over from Andrew McFarlane as the Session Clerk.

Although Archie didn't officially become a Christian until he was nearly 50 he knew there was a God long before then.

“There are definite times in my life where I can see God at work,” Archie told me. “There were too many coincidences. I wanted to find out who Jesus Christ was and that was definitely on my mind when Robert joined the BB.”

In 1995 Archie was made redundant from RR but within a year he had been involved in a training for work programme and got himself a job with Compaq, a computer company. In 2002 it became a subsidiary of Hewlett-Packard. Although Archie enjoyed his work there until he retired in 2016 he describes it as working **beside** people and not **with** them.

So what now? Archie takes his role as Session Clerk very seriously but he admits he is frustrated by the state of our building.

“That makes it hard,” he says.

I started by saying that Archie is a quiet man which is true. But you only have to spend a short time in his company to know there's a lot more to this man than meets the eye. He doesn't see himself as a leader but then - good leaders walk alongside their team not ahead of them.

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus tells believers not to hide their light under a bushel. Archie's light is shining.

Memories and Musings!

First of all, I'd like to give you an update on Ulrike, our friend in Germany who suffered a massive stroke and was very ill when I wrote in the last magazine. I'm happy to say that she has made a remarkable recovery and is now home. She's able to speak and eat, but still having problems with walking. She uses a rollator most of the time, but told me in a recent phone call that she can walk 10 steps without it. She sounds very cheery and she and her family are all very grateful for the prayers they received over the difficult time. She said that so many people had been praying for her that she thinks that God must have earache!

As you get older, memories are a great source of inspiration. I go swimming every morning and one day got talking to a lady who mentioned her brother Lexie Borland - a name which rang a bell. Mulling things over later, I remembered that there was a husband and wife team who used to be officers in the Life Boys, when I was a boy in the late 50s and early 60s. I remembered that the man was Gordon Borland and that his wife was Jessie Borland, who played the piano and taught the boys pitch pipes. I checked this with Alice Wade, who had also been an officer when I was a boy, and she remembered the Borlands too. I recently saw this lady again and asked her if I was right about it all. She was indeed the daughter of the Borlands and was called Christine (now Christine Douglas). She remembered being taken along to the Life Boys as a girl because she had to go with her mum, dad and brother and was the only girl in the BB! She also remembered other people who had been officers at the time - Jack Campbell, Dick Petrie, Lottie Robertson, Alice Gourlay (now Wade) and Bob Frame. I'm sure that these names will ring bells with many of our long-standing members. Christine was also able to tell me that her mother is now in her early 90s and lives with her. She maintained her interest in music and was the conductor of a ladies' choir in East Kilbride for a number of years.

Elizabeth and I were fortunate to be able to go on holiday to Puerto Pollensa in Majorca in mid-August. This is our favourite place for a relaxing time. It has a big horseshoe bay and is surrounded by picturesque mountains. When I look up towards them, I feel a sense of peace and security and it often makes me think of two of my favourite

hymns. The first one is *I lift my eyes to the quiet hills* which talks of God watching over us and guarding us. The other hymn which comes to mind is a verse from *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind* –

O Sabbath rest by Galilee,
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with Thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!

The hymn comes from the poem "The Brewing of Soma" by John Greenleaf Whittier. Soma was a sacred ritual drink which people drank in an attempt to experience divinity, but it turned out to be mere intoxication. Whittier ends by describing the true method for contact with the divine - sober lives dedicated to doing God's will, seeking silence and selflessness in order to hear the "still, small voice of calm", described in 1 Kings 19:11-13 as the authentic voice of God, rather than earthquake, wind or fire.

Looking to the beauty of the hills or mountains reminds us of the wonderful world God has made and gives a sense of security and peace.

Barrie Crawford

**Large print individual books of the
Bible available**

**Please speak to Joan Hamilton if you
would like to have some of these to
borrow or keep.**



Our new session started a few weeks ago and we are hoping for a less disruptive time this year after the many challenges and changing regulations that became a feature of last year.

At the time of writing, we have been back on for 3 weeks and it has been great to see so many familiar faces having returned again this year, along with plenty new boys too in all the age groups – with 84 different boys having attended so far.

This has meant all the leaders have had to be well prepared with our activities to keep everyone busy during the sessions.

So far, the Anchors have been getting to know each other and enjoyed some time playing games outside as the weather has allowed. They have also been hearing the story of the blind man and thinking about how important our sight is. They took part in a few blindfolded challenges to see just how difficult things can be when you can't see what you're doing.

The Juniors have enjoyed a couple of different theme nights so far, with a focus on the Paralympics one week, and a Chocolate theme the next. It's been great to see the boys all taking part in a variety of new activities.

In the Company Section they've been thinking about the Paralympics too and taking part in a number of STEM challenges. It's also been good to get several of the older ones restarted on work towards their DofE awards and major awards within the BB. This includes sections on volunteering, learning new skills such as first aid or playing an instrument, as well as taking part in a physical section too.

We've also managed to arrange a couple of additional activities in the last few weeks, with some of the Company Section enjoying going to Hampden to see Scotland win against Moldova, and a larger group taking part in a Murder Mystery Walk Trail around the village, where they all tried to find clues to work out the weapon and the murderer – it was like a real-life game of Cluedo!

We look forward to continuing with a busy programme of activities between now and Christmas. Thanks again to all who support us in what we do, it is appreciated by both the leaders and the young people who attend.

David Crawford

Operation Christmas Child



As there is still a good number of our congregation not attending church in person, preferring to attend via zoom and as covid numbers are on the increase again, we will not be collecting physical boxes again this year. If you would still like to make up a box then the collection centres will be available during National Collection Week: 15-22 November 2021.

Alternatively, you can make up a box online Shoebox Online (samaritans-purse.org.uk) there is also the opportunity to donate money towards this initiative here.

Wendy



Presbytery Matters

As Hamilton Presbytery returns after the Summer break, we continue to meet online on Teams. We had a discussion on the merits of returning to in person, meeting online or a blended approach. This will have added significance when we become a larger Presbytery after the New Year as we join with Lanark Presbytery to become Lanarkshire Presbytery. Our geographical area will be even larger after the General Assembly of 2022, when it is anticipated that we will be joined by Falkirk Presbytery also.

Upcoming online Safeguarding Training on **Thursday 22 September at 7pm and Saturday 2 October at 10am** is available for all Parish Ministers, Elders and volunteers working with vulnerable people and it is a requirement for all of these groups to attend.

WORLD AND COMMUNITY INTERESTS COMMITTEE Encouraged all congregations to engage with the free online course 'Faith, Hope and Climate Change' hosted by Trinity College Glasgow in the run up to COP26.

MISSION, EDUCATION AND DISCIPLESHIP COMMITTEE Encouraged all Session Clerks to attend at least one 'Session Clerks Session' to share their experience and knowledge with others. Congregations were encouraged to prayerfully discern whether any of their members would be suitable for the Word & Worship Course. We were also encouraged to engage with the ACORN Program as a means to help members practice mission at grass roots level, and through support in small groups, to gain confidence in effective discipleship which was a remit passed at General Assembly.

If any of these subjects have piqued your interest or you'd just like to have anything explained Linda Walker our mission and education worker is available to speak to at the Hamilton Presbytery Office. 01698 479 463 or 07845 362 165.

Wendy



Sunday School

Unfortunately, at the time of writing, we have not resumed our Sunday School classes, although it has been good to see some of the children before the service now and then on a Sunday and we are all amazed at how they have grown over the past few months!

Hopefully, we can start providing something for the few young people we have very soon. We would also be happy to welcome more to come and join us.

The Boys' Brigade have been up and running for some time now providing a time for the boys to meet and they have enrolled many new boys as well. It would be really good if we could see some of them coming along on a Sunday too.

The Girls' Brigade, I believe, are hoping to re-start sometime soon so, again, keeping the young folk connected to the church is very welcome.

Please pray for the Sunday School (and indeed all organisations that involve children) that we may find the way ahead once more.
Elizabeth



*"Our God is a great big God ...
...and he holds us in his hands!"*

PASTORAL CARE GROUP



Pastoral Care continues as restrictions are slowly being eased. Our contact is still mainly by way of phone calls. However, some visiting has taken place and Terry has made it known that she is happy to provide home Communion for those who would like it. Those who have already taken up the offer have benefitted from it.

It has been good to see more people joining us in church for our service on a Sunday. For some who live alone this has been encouraging, just to be able to meet others in their church family in person. Most have enjoyed being able to sing again, albeit through a face covering!! It has been, and continues to be an anxious time for some and it could be easy to feel our prayers are not being answered – at least not as we would like them to be! In a little booklet of thoughts for the day I came across this poem which I would like to share with you.

*God's timing is perfect, so do not despair
If you're keenly awaiting an answer to prayer,
Just keep on believing – one day you will see
A pattern emerging where none used to be.*

*It may take some time, for although we may feel
Our needs to be urgent, our fears to be real,
God knows what He's doing, He's in full control,
But we see a fraction while He sees the whole.*

*Although you may worry and question His will,
He hasn't forgotten, He's waiting until
The threads can be woven to work for your good,
Shaping your destiny just as they should.*

*So if you've a problem be patient ... and wait,
His answer will come not too early or late,
Take heart and keep trusting, for He understands
God's timing is perfect – your life's in His hands.*
(Marian Cleworth)

I do hope you find this little poem helpful ... I know I did.
Please continue to remember in your prayers the members of this group as well as others in the congregation who care in many ways for the sick, vulnerable and lonely. Please also remember those who are too frail or infirm to be with us in church although they would dearly love to.

*“Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you”
(1 Peter, 5:7, New Living Translation)*

Elizabeth, (on behalf of Barrie, Jeanette, Jean, June and Alison)

Give away...



Friday 22nd October from 6.30 p.m. at O2 Academy, Glasgow

4 tickets for the stalls (standing, age 14+ only)- bought for the tour cancelled during the pandemic but now reallocated to this date.

Happy to give away free to anyone that would go and enjoy a lively night of worship!

Covid passports for over 18s and proof of negative lateral flow tests for all ages are needed– see the Academy Music Group website for further details.

If you're interested, please contact Claire– 07908 895183

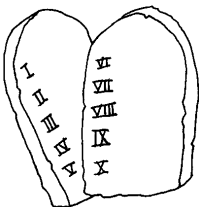


Smarteenies

Finally, we have been able to restart the toddler group, albeit in different circumstances. We are at full capacity and have a waiting list of parents are very keen to socialise their wee ones. Thankfully, we have a good number of volunteers to help us comply with all the safety requirements. There is no snack time at the moment but we give a wee goody bag away with each toddler as they leave. We are looking forward to the time when we can do this again as it gives the adults a chance to chat over a cuppa, while the wee ones are distracted by eating.

After the toys are cleaned and put away, we are able to have song time and play a game. The benefit of having older ones showing the younger, newer ones how to do this has been lost due to the long break in which they have moved on to nursery. Your prayers are appreciated that the parents and carers will feel welcome and form community quickly; that toddlers will get used to playing alongside each other and feel safe to explore and have fun and for the volunteers that we will have the opportunity to share the love of Jesus as we serve in this way.

Wendy



Bible Study-The Ten Commandments

Wednesdays at 7:30pm via Zoom, all welcome

Use the same Zoom link or login details as for Sunday worship

Please email Terry at ttaylor@churchofscotland.org.uk if you need login details.

Take care through Covid...



FACE
COVERINGS



AVOID
CROWDS



CLEAN
HANDS



TWO
METRES



SELF-
ISOLATE

It's great to be back in the church building in greater numbers, worshipping together with those who join us on a Sunday through Zoom— many thanks to the tech team and the door duty team for making this possible and keeping us safe. To help us all keep on the right track:

- ◆ Please continue to wear a face covering when inside the church building, and follow the instructions of the duty team.
- ◆ Be aware that others may wish to continue to maintain social distancing and respect those that prefer to keep their distance.
- ◆ We're still advised not to shake hands or hug.
- ◆ For now, we'll continue with keeping a register for Test & Protect.
- ◆ Please don't come to church if you're feeling unwell.
- ◆ You can still join us on Zoom, from your phone, tablet or computer.
- ◆ We haven't currently restarted serving tea and coffee after the service but we will keep this under review and hope to restart as soon as it is practical to do this safely.

And, nothing to do with Covid but can we ask the ladies to use the accessible toilet rather than the main toilets when necessary until further repairs can be made.



Whatsapp intercessory prayer group

The Whatsapp group that was originally started to arrange rotas for those leading prayers within the church developed to provide a forum in which prayer needs can be shared and answered prayers celebrated. If you would like to be added to the Whatsapp group so you can share privately in praying for others, if you'd like to take a turn in leading the prayers of intercession during Sunday worship or if you have things you would like us to be praying for, please let Terry know (07590 265924).

Church Information

Minister	Terry Taylor	7 Clamps Wood	
Email:	ttaylor@churchofscotland.org.uk	Mobile:	07590 265924
Church Officer	Andy Wilson		01355 234903
Session Clerk	Archie Gardner	1 Somerville Lane	230739
Ass Ses Clerk	Eleanor Woodburn	9 Newlands Place	237928
Praise Group	Barrie Crawford	96 Colonsay	239850
Mag Editor	Claire Johnston	e.claire.johnston@btinternet.com	245277

Congregational Activities

Sunday Worship service 10.30am

(In church building and on Zoom)

Wednesday 7.30pm Bible Study

(On Zoom)

Continue to check on our Facebook pages for details
of organisation and group activities

www.eastkilbridesouthparish.org.uk

Baird Hill, The Murray, East Kilbride, G75 0EA



Church of Scotland

Scottish Charity No 008332