

Issue No. 58



Summer 2026

Clarkston Church Record

The newsletter from
Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland



Our Mission

We, the people of Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church, seek to celebrate God's presence and love through prayer, worship, fellowship and service in the life of our Church, our community and in the wider world.

In this issue.....

Ministerial Matters

News from the Boys Brigade, the Rainbows and Messy Church

Community Fun Day information

Trauma Teddy news

Church Weekly Calendar

- Sun Morning Worship, at 11:00am
Crèche during morning worship,
for babies & children aged 0 - 3
years
After church tea/coffee, in the
Church Hall
12:00 noon
- Tue Church Board & Session
Meetings
7:00pm - 9:00pm,
2nd Tuesday (Sept-June)
"Messy Church"
Future dates to be advised
- Thurs Property Maintenance Group
a.k.a "Land Army"
10:00am - 12:00noon
Community Cafe
11:00pm - 2:00pm (Oct - Mar)
Carpet Bowling Group
2:00pm - 4:00pm (Oct - Apr)
Boys Brigade Junior Section
7:00pm - 8.30pm
- Fri Boys Brigade Anchor Boys
6.00pm - 7.00pm
Boys Brigade Company Section
7.30pm - 10.00pm

For more details on any of the above
activities, please contact the Session
Clerk (details on the back page), or see
the church website,

www.airdrieclarkstonparishchurch.org.uk

or follow us on Facebook at
"Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church"



Newsletter Dates

Next Edition Autumn

Publish Date 20th Sept (TBC)

Congregational Register

Baptisms

"Let the children come to me"

Sunday 5th April 2026

Calum Clelland (adult baptism)

Vicky Clelland (adult baptism)

Arthur John James Clelland

Charlie George Edwin Clelland

Funerals

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted"

With sadness we record the death of the following church
members.

Ian McGleish

Funeral held at Holytown Crematorium
on 15th April 2026

Isobel Faulds

Funeral held at McLaren's service room, Airdrie
followed by burial at New Monkland Cemetery
on 6th May 2026

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends

Joint services at Airdrie: Cairnlea Parish Church

Joint services at Airdrie: Cairnlea Parish Church will be held on
the following dates.

12th July

23rd August

27th September

1st November

Please note that there will be NO services held at
Airdrie: Clarkston Parish Church on these dates.

Ministerial Matters

Dear friends,

*Grace, mercy, and peace to you
from God our Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ.*

I hope this letter finds you well. I write this to you early in June and today has been four seasons in a day! There was torrential rain, then bright sunshine and gusty winds. Just another summer's day in Scotland, I suppose!

Still, the birds are singing, and the flowers are blooming and I'm reminded of God's wonderful creation as I hope you are too.

Whatever the weather, I do send you the warmest of greetings. With those greetings I want to share with you news of what is happening in Clarkston.

We continue to worship Sunday by Sunday in Clarkston Parish Church at 11am, although occasionally we have joint services of worship in Cairnlea Parish Church. These joint services take place, on average, every six weeks. The joint services that have taken place have gone well and it has been a good time of sharing fellowship with the congregation of Cairnlea, with many members of Clarkston Church in attendance.

All this is to ready ourselves for

the coming union with Cairnlea, Calderbank and Chapelhall. (It may not involve Chapelhall – please read on.)

We do not know just yet when the union will take place.

However, there is a little Presbytery news on our union that I would like to share with you.

The team in our Presbytery that deals with the Mission Plan is called the Planning and Implementation Team and just recently they have been in touch with us to let us know of a proposed alteration to our specific Presbytery plan.

You will remember that the Presbytery plan for our Parish Church in Clarkston was that we would join with Chapelhall, Calderbank and Cairnlea to form one united church and parish with myself and Rev Dr Peter Donald (Minister of Cairnlea linked with Calderbank) forming a Team Ministry. Together Peter and I will continue conduct worship and serve the new united parish.

The proposed alteration of the plan is much the same with the exception of Chapelhall uniting with Jackson Parish Church.

This proposal will go to the floor of the Presbytery meeting later in June. The plan may not be accepted but we expect that the proposal will be accepted and

we will then begin to work toward the union of Clarkston, Cairnlea and Calderbank.

We are not certain of the date of the union, but we expect it may be early in the New Year (January 2027).

Once united, Sunday worship will take place in what is now known as Cairnlea. Once united the new church will have a new name, which is still to be decided upon.

After the union has taken place the Clarkston Parish Church building will be put up for sale.

That will be sad day for so many of us, not to mention me. Clarkston Parish Church was the place I was ordained as a minister. Clarkston is my first charge and very quickly became my beloved home.

Of course it is bittersweet, because this end marks the start of a new exciting chapter for our church family. Our worship will be a little different, but we will still be able to carry out our mission to the Clarkston community aided by our newly renovated halls. We retain the church hall and envisage the halls will be used more and more for our local community.

I hope that wee update has been useful to you and should you wish any more information

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about the coming union please do come to speak to myself or any of the Elders.

I wish also to express my gratitude to all the very faithful Elders who have been working hard towards the union. They have gone above and beyond. I have been so proud of them these last few years. I tell many of my colleagues how great the Clarkston Elders have been - so forward thinking and open to

new ideas with such enthusiasm. Please do keep the Elders in your prayers as they continue to give so much of their time and talents in the run up to the union.

These are very different and daunting days for the church not just locally but across the nation and beyond. It is so important to cling not to the past but to cling to God who is the author and finisher of our faith.

And as the apostle Paul encouraged the new church in

Corinth, so I use his words to encourage us:

"thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

(1 Corinthians 15.57)

Whenever things look bleak, and although it may be hard to keep it in mind, we do belong to Jesus, and he will lead us through our trials to victory.

God bless you,

With love Hanna

Messy Church Barbeque

Everyone had a fabulous time at Messy Church on Tuesday 12th May.

The theme was
CARE FOR OUR WORLD

The Bible background was from Psalm 65 verses 6-13 and we were so proud of some of our young people who read parts of this Psalm at our ending celebration.

Lots of related activities were enjoyed. Making Seed Bombs to plant in the garden, a Prayer Ramble through the



church gardens, decorating a large world shape while thinking about how we see God's beautiful creation everywhere we look. Bird feeders were constructed as were Fridge Magnets and Placemats.

Lots of fun, laughter and discussion also took place with

a parachute game where pictures were considered as to whether they were a good thing or a bad thing to find in the sea.

A huge thank you to our Messy Church team for their commitment, creativity and catering this session.

Our new session will begin at end of September/ beginning of October.

Date to be confirmed.

Community Fun Day

This year we are again holding a Community Fun Day, on Saturday 29th August from 1.00 pm - 4.00 pm.

We would really appreciate new/ unused items that could be used as

Tombola prizes.

Also if anyone would like to help with some home baking for the tearoom then that would be very welcome.

MOST IMPORTANTLY please support us by coming along and enjoy all the fun that the day offers - side shows, games, tombola, food, snack stalls and tearoom.

Organisations News



2nd Airdrie Rainbows

In March the Rainbows attended a GirlGuiding Airdrie Division event at Airdrie: New Wellwynd Church to celebrate the Commonwealth Games coming to Glasgow.

There were lots of activities for the girls, including a mini obstacle course, a quiz, colouring in, a bouncy castle, Indian dancing and a round of crazy golf. The girls enjoyed all the activities and we seem to have some budding golfers in the making!

Six Rainbows have made their Promise this session; the Rainbows, parents and leaders were delighted they had all gained a very special badge in GirlGuiding.

To celebrate all our success over the last year we finished for the summer with a party, which was enjoyed by everyone attending.

Margaret MacFall

Unit Leader

2nd Airdrie Rainbows



3rd Airdrie Boys Brigade

The Boys Brigade had a very successful 2025/26 session with the annual display taking place on Friday 29th of May in our Church hall with in excess of 150 parents, grandparents and friends attending.

The Anchor boys were the stars of the evening as usual showing how they have fun and games every week. We had 31 boys on the night and they all were presented with their Anchor Boys badges. Seven boys will be moving up to the junior section at the start of the new session.

The Junior section had sixteen boys on parade at the display and took part in Figure Marching and Physical Training on the evening which everyone enjoyed. This year the boys have won the Junior section challenge trophy, coming 1st in football, 1st in sports, 2nd in figure marching, 2nd in physical training, 2nd in scripture knowledge, 3rd in top team and 3rd in mind and creativity so a very successful session. Five boys are moving up to the company section at the start of the new session.

The Company section also had sixteen boys at the display and showed their skill in vaulting and Mat work. The Company section had six boys gaining their Presidents badge and one boy

gaining his Kings Badge that was presented to him at Airdrie: Cairnlea Parish Church on Sunday 31st May.

The Company section came 2nd in the battalion trophy this year, a very good result.

We are now having a well earned break and will meet back at the end of August for the new session.

Archie Easton

Captain

3rd Airdrie Boys Brigade

Trauma Teddies

An update on the Trauma Teddies

Scott Murphy, one of the 3rd Airdrie B.B. Officers was the link for me to approach the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. Scott arranged for me to speak to one of the fire service Commanders in Lanarkshire. At the first meeting I took along two teddies, relating the story of how I became involved with Trauma Teddies, and from there the Commander took the two teddies to speak to his superiors. A few weeks passed and the Commander contacted me again to say that Lanarkshire area fire service would be delighted to accept the offer, and would I be able to supply a total of 200 teddies (quite a tall order) for a pilot scheme across fire stations in Lanarkshire, beginning with 12 teddies for Coatbridge fire station. Soon 10 teddies were knitted (so including the two previous teddies made the total 12), which covered the 4 fire appliances at Coatbridge, each one being stocked with 3 teddies.

A few weeks later, on Tuesday 17th February, I was able to deliver another 25 teddies to Coatbridge fire station, which had been knitted by Pat Muir, Brenda Robertson and myself.

By this time the Commander and I were negotiating a group meeting at Coatbridge fire station with everyone who was contributing. The ladies were from Airdrie Library and New Wellwynd knitting group, plus Pat, Brenda and myself from Clarkston Church. On Monday 30th March, some of the contributing ladies joined me at the fire station, and I took along another 4 boxes containing 25 teddies each. We were made very welcome by 'Amber' group, and Scott guided us outside to where the fire appliances were parked and gave a good explanation of the equipment each one had on board. One of the fire appliances had a ladder which can be extended to access high places if required whilst attending a large building fire.

Since that visit the balance of 63 teddies have been delivered, making the grand total of 200.

The first two photographs on the facing page were taken at Coatbridge fire station during our visit in March; the first photo shows Scott Murphy and myself, the second photo is a group photo of all the ladies who attended along with some of the fire service staff on duty that day, and the third photo is a close up of one of the trauma teddies. All of the ladies attending thoroughly enjoyed their visit.

The next Trauma Teddy update will be in connection with the Scottish Ambulance Service at their Coatbridge depot, for which discussions are in progress at the moment.

If anyone would like to contribute the first size of new-born hats (no pompoms, no buttons, no straps), its just a pull on, in any colour; I believe the correct terms is a Beanie, I would accept gratefully. They do not need to be one colour, just use up your left over knitting yarn. Double knitting please. I can give you a pattern, just ask.

Betty Kennedy



Clarkston Church

Community Fun day

is

back this summer

on

Saturday 29th August

From 1:00pm until 4:00pm

Tombola, Tea room, Clarkston Beach,
Burgers, Face Painting, Beat the Goalie,
Ice Creams and a whole lot more....

Church Contacts

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Session Clerk: Mrs K. Harrison / Mr C. Sefton

Clerk to the Board: Mrs J. Codona

Property Convenor: Position vacant

Treasurer: Mrs K. Harrison

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Charity No: SC011239

The next issue of this newsletter will be the Autumn edition, which is scheduled for publication in September 2026.

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