



Cairneyhill Church Newsletter



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 10 th December 11:30 am	2 nd Sunday in Advent	CH/ZM
Sunday 17 th December 11:30 am	"A DIY Nativity"	CH/ZM
Sunday 24 th December 11:30 am	4 th in Advent	CH/ZM
Sunday 24 th December 6:30 pm	Christingle Family Service*	CH/ZM
Sunday 24 th December 11:30 pm	Watchnight from Limekilns~	CH
Monday 25 th December 9:30 am	Christmas Morning Gathering	CH

CH – in church ZM – on Zoom

*Christingle Zoom Meeting ID: **851 1582 5591**; Passcode: **526299**

~Watchnight from Limekilns will be live-streamed in Cairneyhill Church

The DIY Nativity service will be led by KACH. The watchnight service is being held in Limekilns Church but will be live-streamed and will be shown on screen in Cairneyhill Church.

Message from the Minister

Dear Friends, as we approach Advent, and especially as we get closer to Christmas there will be more lights and decorations appearing in our streets, villages and towns. Many shops already have extensive Christmas displays. Lots of plans will be made for Christmas parties and celebrations.

There can be a tendency to think of Christmas as primarily for children. For adults, a moment to indulge the inner child. As a society we seem a bit like the child at Christmas who plays with the box and forgets the gift it contained. The tinsel and glitter of Christmas distracting us from the reason for the celebration.

The Christmas story in the gospels of Matthew and Luke reveal a reality that the romanticised version obscures. The real story is about real people and a real world. There are hopes and fears, joys and disappointments, human weakness and abuse of power.

A secular Christmas may be all about a light moment in the dark days of winter. The Christmas of faith is about light coming into a world of darkness.

The real story of Christmas is a love story. The story of God's love for us.

Yours, Norman



Sanctuary Cinema & Warm Spaces Every Thursday



In conjunction with the “Warm Spaces” initiative the church is open to provide a warm comfortable setting for a Thursday afternoon. Following on from the success of games and film afternoons earlier on in the year, we have set up a similar rota every Thursday afternoon from November through to the end of March 2024. One week it is a games/blether afternoon, next week it is a film afternoon. Coffees, teas and biscuits are always available.

So far we have screened “Swimming with Men”, and “Sometimes Always Never” and in the coming weeks we will be screening “It’s a Wonderful Life”, “The Greatest Showman”, “The Great Escaper” – new film with Michael Caine and also “The Miracle Club” with Maggie Smith and Kathy Bates.

All great films not to be missed – look out for the Facebook posts and posters at the church and around the village.



So, if you want to avoid heating your house for an afternoon, see a good film, come along for a chat, put The Sanctuary Cinema – Cairneyhill Church in

your diary for each and every Thursday afternoon until the end of March. The good bit of course is that it is free, yes that’s right all these great films for free – so are teas, coffees and biscuits!

For the future:

We are also keen to start a school kids film evening, films suitable for primary school age and/or secondary school age, ideally on a Thursday evening but we’re open to feedback and requests for whatever evening and requests for suitable films. Get in touch via our website or our Facebook Page.



Since last time:

- In September the **Moderator of the General Assembly** visited Fife. Rt Rev Sally Foster-Fulton walked part of the Pilgrim Way with a lunch stop in Cairneyhill. The Moderator led worship in Tulliallan Church, Kincardine with lots of folk from the West Fife Villages attending.
- Cairneyhill Church sent 106 shoeboxes filled with Christmas Gifts and £105 to the **Blythswood Appeal**.



- **Remembrance Day** was marked on 12th November with a good attendance in church and at the War Memorial.



Have you tried praying? What would you say? Here are 4 ways to pray . . everyday.

Dear God, you are . . .
(A Prayer of Adoration) Tell God how awesome he is in your own words.

Dear God, thank you for . . .
(Prayer of Thanksgiving) Recognise that every good and perfect thing comes from him so do thank him.

Dear God, forgive me for . . .
(Prayer of Confession) As well as being honest, try to bring something specific to him so that you can know his forgiveness for this.

Dear God, please . . . Now is the time to bring your prayers for others or yourself. Trust him to make a difference!

Try praying – it’s easier than you think.

Our Church



The six congregations of the Church of Scotland in the West Fife Villages have agreed in principle to work towards a union into a single parish. This will make best use of the 2.5 ministry posts that will be available in future. No church closures are planned except for Culross Abbey, the disposal of which has already been decided upon. The union constitution will ensure local decision making continues in each village. Once the arrangements are fully evolved the congregations will all vote on the plan sometime in 2025.

Compassion Sponsorship

The church continues to sponsor 3 children through Compassion Sponsorship. The children tell us a little more about their lives in their letters.

SHAMMAH (15) - KENYA

Shammah thanks us for our sponsorship and for bringing great love into his life. He is now studying without difficulties and doing great in his studies - and life too. His family was able to harvest crops that were planted last season and prepare the fields for the next planting season.

He asks that God bless us as we are a blessing in his life.

MIREYA (14) - PERU

Mireya thanks us for the monetary gift we sent for her birthday. She bought sneakers for school.

Mireya likes playing volleyball. In August she helped her mother and played volleyball with her friends.

Mireya asks us to pray for her mother to be in good health and for her studies to go well. She says goodbye with a kiss and a tight hug.

KERRY (11) - HAITI

He and his family are doing well. He bought shoes with the monetary gift we sent for his birthday. He is doing well in school and is now in 7th grade.

Kerry asks us to pray for him to live a healthy life and that he continues with his classical studies. He will pray that God will protect our life and that of our families.

The love and support provided through Compassion helps the children to receive the assistance they need to grow and develop. The financial contribution of a sponsor makes a huge impact, but letters are also very important. It is through these letters that a relationship is built. This helps to give the children hope - they know that someone cares for them.

Sponsorship costs £28 per month. There are many ways to contribute through Cairneyhill Church. Contact Elaine Morris via our website or Facebook page for information. Your prayers are very welcome too.



From the Treasurer

As always, I am extremely grateful for the very generous giving of our supporters. Cairneyhill Church receives more than £27,000 through donations and various forms of fundraising. This funds our contribution to the Church of Scotland for its work in the world including ministry costs and allows us to maintain our buildings.



The church properties are multi-purpose and available to organizations or individuals who need a space to provide their activity.

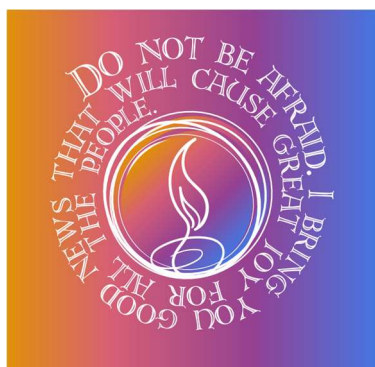
The Church and meeting rooms can be hired for a suggested donation of £15 per hour with an additional donation for the use of the Church technical equipment. Please do not hesitate to contact me for information:

email: georgewhite643@gmail.com
phone: 07949 596559.

Church Activity Groups



Get in touch via the website or our Facebook page for information about our groups!



Cairneyhill 60+ Club

Over 60 and looking for some company? The club offers a varied programme of speakers, games and quizzes, as well as tea and chat! Come along (men and women), you'll be made most welcome. Meetings are in Cairneyhill Church Manse 2nd & 4th Mondays 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Contact Maureen Campbell phone 01383 249788.

Cairneyhill Rainbows, Brownies and Guides



Our Girlguiding Units have been busy! As well as working on different aspects of the Girlguiding programme, all the Units have been coming together for special events. Recently, we held an afternoon of activities to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the Trefoil Guild. This included making Christmas cards for local care homes, weaving, yoga, a scavenger hunt around the village and learning about Girlguiding in Africa. The Brownies and Guides then watched a movie and held a sleepover in the Manse. We have also been thinking of others. The Rainbows and Brownies filled 30 shoeboxes for the Church's Blythswood Shoebox Appeal and the Guides donated toys to Beanstalk Family Nurture Centre Christmas Gift Appeal. Upcoming soon are a visit to the cinema, our Christmas party and in the New Year a danceathon.

There is a waiting list for Rainbows (age 4-7) and Brownies (age 7-10). If you would like your child to be added to the list or join the Guides if they are aged between 10-14, please register your interest at www.girlguiding.org.uk. If you would like to be an adult volunteer at any of the Units, please register at the same website.

Minister Rev Norman Grant (Tel 01383 872341)



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