

CALDERBANK PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(WWW.CALDERBANKCHURCH.CO.UK)



December 2023 & January 2024



Charity Number SC 015831 CONTACT DETAILS		
Minister	Rev Dr Peter Donald	01236 753159/ 07453 359531
Session Clerk	Mrs Joyce MacIver	01236 751086
Treasurer	Mr David Findlay	01506 793872
Editor	Mr David & Mrs Gwenn Stewart	01236 767669
Organist	Brigid Donald	01236 753159

A Message from Rev Dr Peter Donald



Dear friends,

As Christmas fairs have happened and the first Sunday of Advent comes, can I begin with sending love from Brigid and myself and our best wishes to you for the celebration of Christmas and into the new year. We have so much to be thankful for in our faith. That faith is grounded, literally and in every sense, on God revealing His grace and truth in the flesh, in Jesus.

So, this is THE time to begin anew in the life of the church. If you've been missing for a bit, come back! If you're well accustomed to being within the company, allow a freshness to run through your sense of faith. If you have a chance to encourage a son or a daughter, a grandchild or two, a neighbour, a friend, to be with you on a Sunday morning, please do so. The celebration of how God has shown Himself in Jesus from the beginning deserves more than us spending time working out who to buy presents for and who to send cards to (or whether nowadays to do that). It certainly offers better than a stress-fest. Quite aside from any consideration of how much money we have or don't have, it will enrich our lives.

How does that work? Well, it's about the big story, THE big story. The discovery that each and every one of us is more than simply an accident of biology – birth leading through to death. Not only will we find ourselves in the way that we live for and with others but we shall find ourselves, or rather be found, in hearing the call to become fully children of God.

This November of 2023, there have been plenty of big stories – perhaps some within your own family of huge significance, and on the news screens plenty that has and will upset any of us. In Biblical language, this is us walking in darkness. Lord, shine your light we pray. Build your hope in us, your peace, your joy, your love. In Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Yours, Peter





December Evening Worship

On Sunday 3rd December at 6 pm in Cairnlea. With the Salvation Army band and school choirs. Please note a (free) ticket is needed for guaranteeing a seat in the main auditorium. If needed, there will be overflow seats on the rest of the site.

On Sunday 10th December at 6.30 pm. With the praise band, joining at Ebenezer Evangelical Church. (I shall be preaching on 2 Corinthians 4:6!)

On Sunday 24th December, Christmas Eve, at 11.30 pm in Calderbank Church. We hope for a good number to come!

Christmas Gift Suggestions:
To your enemy, forgiveness.
To an opponent, tolerance.
To a friend, your heart.
To a customer, service.
To all, charity.
To every child, a good example.
To yourself, respect.

~ Oren Arnold



Christmas Day Service

There is a Christmas Day service in Cairnlea at 10.30 am.



Harvest Retiral



The sum of £ 127.50 was donated to Comfort International to support the work they do in Central Africa, particularly Rwanda.

Thanks to everyone who contributed.



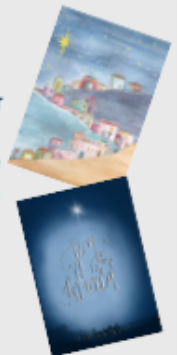
COMFORT GIFTS

Shop Comfort Gifts this Christmas



Find all the inspiration you need this Christmas in our Comfort Gifts Catalogue. Give the gift of health, education, food or safe accommodation to someone who really needs it, and your loved one will receive a beautiful specially designed card detailing how their gift has changed someone's life. Perfect for everything from Secret Santa to your nearest and dearest. Shop at shop.comfortinternational.org

give a gift and change a life



The Comfort International Gift Catalogue can be found at this link

<https://comfortinternational.org/shop/comfort-gifts/>

Weekly Freewill Offering Envelopes

If anyone is interested in receiving a set of weekly freewill envelopes for 2024, please contact David Findlay or any Elder who will be able to help.

Alternatively, if anyone would like to give by standing order, the bank details are –

Account Name: Calderbank Parish Church
Sort Code: 83-15-11 ; Account Number: 00130391
Bank: RBS , Coatbridge



Week of Prayer Joint Service

Calderbank will be joining with Corpus Christi for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on Thursday 18th January in the evening.

Time to be advised.

News of the Church Family



Sadly, we lost two members in November –

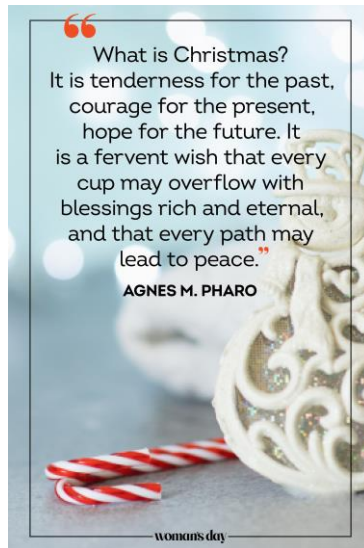
First at the grand age of very nearly 102, Mrs Helen Love, formerly of Park Road.

Second, having gone more recently to stay with her daughter, Mrs Margaret McIntyre, formerly of Woodhall Avenue.

Margarets funeral will be held in the Church on 5th December.

Thank you for allowing both services to be held at the Church.

Please pray for those who will miss them most.



Remembrance Retiral

£160.00 was donated to the Earl Haig fund which was the proceeds of the retiring offering taken on Remembrance Sunday.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this important charity.





Christmas Fayre

The Christmas Fayre was a huge success with lots of people coming along to support us.

Many thanks to all who worked so hard to make this happen.

In addition to the warm feeling of friendship on the day we raised an amazing £1910 for Church funds.

There were many prize winners so a big congratulations to you all.



Fellowship

Joint Worship

The service held jointly in November has been going for some years, but this year was made more special by us being joined by Clarkston Church. The singing was wonderful and the fellowship much appreciated.

Messy Church, an alternative way of doing hands-on activity and chat alongside worship, is to be hosted by Calderbank on Sunday 3rd December in the afternoon. Clarkston Church do it at their end of the town on Tuesday 5th December, 5-30-7.30 pm. Some of our members also went to so-called “Vintage” Messy Church at the end of November and had a great time!

If there are children you can encourage to do this very informal time together, do take up these opportunities.

Brownies



The Brownies are calling it a wrap on the 20th with our usual Christmas movie pyjama party (movie to be decided on Wednesday, can tell you after that) where we'll be watching ?? There will be hot dogs, popcorn, sleeping bags, teddies, the lot! We'll finish up with a couple of Christmas carols and a wee present for all the girls.

Before that though we'll be learning about St Andrew and then in December we'll be making Christmas crafts in the lead up to the party.

We'll also be losing one of our OAB's (Old Age Brownie) as she is now 10 and it's time to move on to the Guides. There are still 17 Brownies left though so we have plenty to keep us busy!

Brownies will be returning on the 10th January where hopefully everyone will be ready for a new year of learning, having fun and most of all, being a good Brownie!



Men Only

The next men's meal will be held on 1st February.

Further details will be provided nearer the date, but all are welcome.

Boy's Brigade



The Boys Brigade will finish for the festive period on the 12th of December and start back up raring to go on the 9th January 2024.

Thank you to all who have supported the boys throughout the year.



From All at Calderbank
Parish Church



2023	
4 th December	Carols & Verses with 4C's
11 th December	Senior Citizen Lunch with Colin Scougall
18 th December	On Holiday
25 th December	On Holiday
2024	
1 st January	On Holiday
8 th January	Philip Hacking
15 th January	Bob Glen
22 nd January	Burns Lunch
29 th January	Glasgow Street Pastors



A New Year Hoolie?

A New Year Ceilidh: following on the great success of last year, the youth group at Cairnlea (CYC) is hosting a New Year ceilidh. To fit in with availabilities, this will be on the evening of Saturday 13th January, beginning at 7 pm. Tickets £5 / £3 will be available in advance or at the doors, to include a starter refreshment. Do come and bring friends!

The Magic of
Christmas
 is not in the presents
 but in *His* 
 presence

Newsletter



MONTH	CONTENT DUE BY	ISSUE DATE
February	29 th January	4 th February
March	26 th February	3 rd March
April	25 th March	7 th April
May	29 th April	5 th May
June	27 th May	2 nd June
July/August	24 th June	7 th July
September	26 th August	1 st September
October	30 th September	6 th October
November	28 th October	3 rd November
December/January 2025	25 th November	1 st December

Why do we celebrate Christmas?

Celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ is more than a Christian holiday or Christian festival. It is more than an occasion to decorate our houses.

It is an opportunity to pause and give thanks for the love, hope and joy found in Jesus – our Saviour and friend. As we exchange gifts with loved ones, it is out of remembrance of the gift God gave us in Jesus. The gift that we are loved, are never alone and can have hope for the future.

After Jesus was born, a small group of wise men visited him. They recognised the kingship of Jesus and they “worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh” (Matthew 2:11). You, too, can offer up your worship and thanks to God through prayers this Christmas. Prayers of thanksgiving for the gift of hope, love and joy.

Your Christmas this year might look different to previous years. It may not match up to the commercial images you see or hopes you have. But remember the true meaning of Christmas doesn’t depend on the number of gifts under a tree or the type of food on your table. The message of Christmas doesn’t change if you are surrounded by family, missing loved ones for the first time or on your own. It is not affected by the house you live in – or don’t live in.

God’s love is for everyone. You are not alone. You are loved, and you can feel hopeful and joyful. That is the true meaning of Christmas.



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Calderbank Church has built a place of friendship which welcomes everyone. Our halls are utilised to the full by internal and external organisations in addition to Church events held throughout the year for all ages.

A big thank you goes to everyone that comes along to keep the friendship blossoming.

As with most things there is a lot of hard work carried out in the background and we are fortunate at Calderbank to have some dedicated people so as we approach the end of 2023, I thought it only appropriate to say a big thank you to some of them.

Rev Peter Donald for his worship, visits, ideas, and continuous encouragement

Mrs Brigid Donald for allowing us to have so much of Peters time, for playing the organ and getting her sleeves rolled up and mucking in at any events.

Mrs Joyce McIver, Session Clerk for keeping everything running daily.

Mr David Findlay, Treasurer for being frugal with the funds so we can have a comfortable and cosy place to gather.

Property Committee- for ensuring that the Church and grounds stay in a good and more importantly safe condition.

Elders-for assisting the Minister and making decisions for the way forward with the congregation in mind.

To you all a very big THANK YOU.



Door Duty Rota



DATE		
3 rd December	David Findlay	Billy Dunlop
10 th December	John Currie	David MacIver
17 th December	David Stewart	Bobby Kinniburgh
24 th December	Joan McPhee	Ian Buchanan
31 st December	David Findlay	Billy Dunlop
2024		
7 th January2024	John Currie	David MacIver
14 th January 2024	David Stewart	Bobby Kinniburgh
21 st January 2024	Joan McPhee	Ian Buchanan
28 th January 2024	David Findlay	Billy Dunlop
4 th February 2024	John Currie	David MacIver



DATE	
3 rd December	Mrs Jean Cunningham
10 th December	Mrs C Edmondson
17 th December	Mrs Jean Phillips
24 th December	Jim & May Ramsay
31 st December	Mrs S Blair
2024	
7 th January2024	Mrs Catherine Rankin
14 th January 2024	Mrs Susan Campbell
21 st January 2024	Mrs Jean Dunlop
28 th January 2024	Mrs Jean Rankin
4 th February 2024	

Flower List





DATE	EVENT	Time
3 rd December	Evening Worship at Cairnlea with Salvation Band Choirs	6pm
10 th December	Evening Worship at Ebenezer with Praise Band	6.30pm
24 th December	Christmas Eve services at Calderbank	11.30pm
25 th December	Christmas Day service at Cairnlea	10.30am



DATES FOR THE DIARY



DATE	EVENT
9 th January	BBs start back
10 th January	Brownies start back
13 th January	Ceilidh at Cairnlea – 7pm
18 th January	Joint Service with Corpus Christi for the Week of Prayer
1 st February	Men's meal

FESTIVE PUZZLE ANSWERS



1	Oregon	6	Gold, Frankincense & Myrrh
2	Advent	7	Donner, Dasher and Dancer
3	364	8	Dove Orchid
4	Eight- Rudolph Is not included	9	The Grinch
5	Cupid	10	Seven Swans a Swimming

CHRISTMAS WORDSEARCH

ACROSS

4	Gingebread
7	Mistletoe
8	Train
12	Yule
13	Turkey
15	Tinsel
16	Party
17	Lights



DOWN

1	Tree
2	Santa
3	Reindeer
4	Grinch
5	Nativity
6	Eve
9	Jumper
10	Rudolph
11	Frosty
14	Wrap



CHRISTMAS WORD SCRAMBLE

WNOS

SNOW

OIOECKS

COOKIES

YHAODLI

HOLIDAY

THO ECOCOHATL

HOT CHOCOLATE

NSNWOAM

SNOWMAN

ERTE

TREE

AANST

SANTA

VGGINI

GIVING

SDNEOCIRTA

DECORATIONS

REEENRDI

REINDEER

SCRALO

CAROL

NTEDOA

ADVENT

SPEARIT

PARTIES

HRPULDO

RUDOLPH

RWNTIE

WINTER

FTGSI

GIFTS

SCAHMRTIS

CHRISTMAS

GPAPNIWR

WRAPPING

YMFIAL

FAMILY

NINEDR

DINNER

STTDRAIINO

TRADITIONS

KNIGAB

BAKING

DSCRA

CARDS

HWERAT

WREATH

CHRISTMAS MOVIE NAME

Love Actually	National Lampoons Christmas Vacation
Miracle on 34 th Street	Die Hard
White Christmas	A Christmas Carol
Scrooged	Elf
Home Alone	It's a Wonderful Life

What/Who am I?

1. I am one of a kind.

2. I am frozen.

3. I fall from the sky.

ANSWER:
SNOWFLAKE



Queen's Speech

1. I am made of snow.

2. I wear a hat and scarf.

3. I have a carrot nose and eyes made out of coal.

ANSWER:
SNOWMAN



Queen's Speech

1. I am used on ice.

2. I am worn on your feet.

3. I have sharp blades on the bottom of me.

ANSWER:
ICE SKATES



Queen's Speech

1. I am a warm drink.

2. I am made with chocolate.

3. I am delicious with marshmallows.

ANSWER:
HOT COCOA



Queen's Speech

1. I am tall and green.

2. I am decorated with lights.

3. I have a star on top of me.

ANSWER:
CHRISTMAS TREE



Queen's Speech

1. I am given to people at Christmas.

2. I am put under the tree.

3. I am wrapped in paper and topped with a bow.

ANSWER:
PRESENT



Queen's Speech

How many Reindeers did you find in the puzzle pullout?



How many Snowmen did you find in the Newsletter?

NEW YEAR PRAYER

Thank you Lord for giving me

The brand new year ahead

Help me live the way I should

As each new day I tread.

Give me gentle wisdom

That I might help a friend

Give me strength and courage

So a shoulder I might lend.

The year ahead is empty

Help me fill it with good things

Each new day filled with joy

And the happiness it brings.



**"THE BEST
CHRISTMAS GIFT
IS TO REALIZE
HOW MUCH YOU
ALREADY HAVE."**

PEACE,
GOOD WILL,
AND
HAPPINESS
FOR YOU
AT CHRISTMAS
AND ALWAYS.

unknown




The
MAGIC OF
CHRISTMAS
NEVER ENDS
ITS GREATEST
GIFT ARE
family & friends



**HE WHO
HAS NOT
CHRISTMAS
IN HIS
HEART
WILL NEVER
FIND
IT UNDER
A TREE**



The next circulation of the newsletter will be on the

4th February 2024



What the new year
brings to you will
depend a great
deal on what you
bring to the new year.

Remember if you have any stories, articles, or snippets
you would like to share please send to the

News@CalderbankChurch.co.uk

Please pass any items to be included in the next edition
of the newsletter to me by **29th January** at the latest.

Thank You

Gwenn