



*October The Season of Harvest*

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***Welcome to the October 2023  
edition of  
Prospect***

*In this edition there is our usual  
features with news & updates from  
LHM, BB & others*

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*Save the date for Harvest Sunday  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October*

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*The BB mark Founders Day Sunday  
29<sup>th</sup> October*

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*If you have any ideas for additional  
features, please get in touch.*

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**October 2023**

Issue 424

Scottish Charity No.  
SC014212

**PROSPECT**

**Magazine of Stepps Parish  
Church**

**Contact Us:**

Minister: Currently Vacant

Session Clerk: Lorraine Robertson  
[sessionclerkspc2020@gmail.com](mailto:sessionclerkspc2020@gmail.com)

Church Organist / musician:

Alastair Sim 0141 779 1101

**Watch us on YouTube each  
Sunday at 11.00 am.**

**Follow us on Facebook.**

[www.steppsparishchurch.org](http://www.steppsparishchurch.org)

At the heart of our  
community celebrating  
faith and life to the full.

To submit an item for Prospect  
please email Lorraine on

[sessionclerkspc2020@gmail.com](mailto:sessionclerkspc2020@gmail.com)



## Stepps Parish Church

**Minister**: Currently Vacant

Interim Moderator: Deacon  
Claire Herbert

[CHerbert@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:CHerbert@churchofscotland.org.uk)

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### **Session Clerk**

Lorraine Robertson

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## Sunday Services Morning Worship at 11am

The Scottish Government have removed all COVID rules and restrictions, but the virus has not gone away. Instead of legal constraints the government are asking people to use 'COVID sense' to help protect themselves and others. The same principal of using 'COVID sense' should apply to our church buildings, congregational activities and the support you offer communities.

[Getting your vaccine](#) when offered to ensure you are fully protected.

Staying at home and resting if you have symptoms.

Opening windows when meeting indoors

[Wearing a face covering](#) in indoor public places and encouraging the use of face coverings in church buildings wherever possible.

Washing your hands to protect each other.

Taking an LFD test if you have symptoms or before visiting someone in a hospital or care home.

Please continue to follow the website for information about our Services. We look forward to welcoming you all back with us again. For those who are unable to return with us at this time we will continue to stream our weekly Sunday services on our Stepps Parish Church YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI7mTSz5OI-vW-qMKKjCXAww>



Charity No: SC014212



## Pastoral Letter Deacon Claire Herbert

*"The nights are fair drawin' in"* as my granny used to say. We have just past the autumn equinox. As with the Spring Equinox this is a point of seasonal equilibrium when the struggle between darkness and light tips, in autumn, towards the shortest day. We will mark the end of British Summer time or Daylight-saving time on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October.

As I write, the first named storm of the season, Storm Agnes, is rolling towards our shores. As a family we have just harvested this season's crop of 60 apples before they are blown to the ground.

There may be storms and darkness but I love the words of the hymn "Christ be our light" by Bernadette Farrell. The song is a prayer for light, truth and peace in the world. With the chorus

*"Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today"*

Let it be our prayer in the coming months as the leaves turn and the clocks change.

We look forward to our Harvest Service here at Stepps on 8<sup>th</sup> October when our young people will be helping to gather-in the Harvest. All donations are going to LHM, to help provide meals for people experiencing homelessness.

LHM extends an invitation to everyone to join them for the Annual Service for World Homeless Day on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm at 35 East Campbell Street, Gallowgate, Glasgow, G1 5DT. The guest speaker is Rt Rev Sally Foster-Fulton, moderator of Church of Scotland.

At Stepps, we are blessed to have the Boys Brigade leading our worship at the end of the month for Founders Day and we would love it if as many people can come along and support and encourage the Boys and their dedicated officers.

While there has been strike action causing school closures, I know many of you have been stepping up and helping out as grandparents, friends and neighbours to volunteer and care for our young people. It is a source of great blessing to have so many young people in and around our church family and we pray for them and all those who offer support and care in our community, as everyone looks ahead to the October break.

While for some there may be darkness and storms, this is the season of Harvest. The lengthening nights mark the season of thanksgiving, and I am sure you will agree there is also much that the Lord has given us at Stepps worth rejoicing over.

Christ be your light – may He shine in our hearts.

Every Blessing

*Claire*

Deacon Claire Herbert

Interim Moderator. Chaplain LHM

Please do not hesitate to get in touch - via email- if there are concerns, questions or pastoral issues. [cherbert@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:cherbert@churchofscotland.org.uk)



*Hamish 9 weeks old*

Meet Hamish, our newest (and cutest) member of our congregation. Hamish has just arrived in the Herbert household to begin his training journey towards becoming a guide dog for the blind and we look forward to following his journey.



## Session Clerk Letter

**W**ell here we are racing towards October and the season of Harvest. The heating is once again set and we slowly lapse from autumn into winter. Already it seems a struggle to get up in the morning as the days shorten and we have longer nights. I am doing everything I can to avoid using the **darkness** word as I know that Claire hates the Winter.



The theme of **Light** and **Darkness** are constant throughout the Bible.

Today as I write we are set to have the first storm of the season and the rain batters outside. Despite the wet and wild there is nothing nicer than coming inside into the coziness of a warm space or enjoying a hot steaming bowl of soup.

After a short recess the Chestnut Café team are once again back offering just that and they look forward to welcoming its customers again every Thursday morning. We are grateful to their dedication each week in offering their warm space to the community to enjoy some much-needed company for some and fellowship for others.

Also, in our issue there is a kind invitation from our friends in St Andrew's East whose Guild restarts again this month and who look forward to welcoming new members. Many of us have already made new friendships with our cluster congregations and we thank them for extending the invite - an opportunity perhaps for those who find themselves at a loose end on a Wednesday afternoon and who crave company to embrace new friendships. The Guild sends out a monthly newsletter to inform people of their activities both locally and nationally and gives an insight into the wide range of things they do and how people can get involved. Why not give it a try!

October also marks **Challenge Poverty Week** and we remember all the good work that our priority area congregations do to help those marginalized among our society as well as supporting our friends at LHM now rebranded to LHM360 offering Life, Hope and Meaning to all who rely on their services. What a ray of light they bring to those who have seen some very dark times.

There is little we can do to prevent '*the nights drawin*' in but the Bible reminds us that despite whatever the weather throws at us or whatever trials or despairs we go through.

***"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."***

(John 1:5)

Amen to that.

*As always*

*Lorraine*

## October Welcome Duty



October	Welcome at Door	Welcome	Beadle
1 <sup>st</sup>	C. Skinner.	E. Watson	L. Ashmole
8 <sup>th</sup>	L. Ashmole	H. Baker	S. Baker
15 <sup>th</sup>	S. Baker	S. Gowans	J. Burns
22 <sup>nd</sup>	J. Burns	A. Macdonald	J. Thomson
29 <sup>th</sup>	J. Thomson.	R. McGovern	L. Ashmole
November 5 <sup>th</sup>	L. Ashmole	H. Baker	S. Baker

If you are unable to do your weekly rota. Please ensure you arrange someone to cover.

*Jane Thomson*

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## Tea Rota



October 1st	S. Gowans	L. Robertson
8 <sup>th</sup>	C. Skinner	E. Corbett
15 <sup>th</sup>	H. Baker	E. Watson
22 <sup>nd</sup>	H. Baker	E. Corbett
29 <sup>th</sup>	L. Robertson	A. Mountantzi
November 5 <sup>th</sup>	E. Watson	E. Corbett





## 190<sup>th</sup> GLASGOW COMPANY, THE BOYS' BRIGADE

The Company has commenced the new Session with a significant rise in numbers, with a great many new recruits to the Anchor Boys, which will give us a great foundation for the future. We have started our weekly programme in all Sections with a mixture of Drill, BB Knowledge, arts and crafts, and teamwork exercises, as well as physical training and games. The Recruits in all Sections are working towards their first awards, while Senior Boys continue to work on their higher awards. We are planning other activities for the Session, such as trips and special activities, we will keep you posted.

Anchor Boys for Boys in P1-P3, and Junior Section for Boys in P4-P6 meet on Mondays from 6.00pm to 7.00pm. Company Section meets on Mondays from 7.00pm to 9.00pm for Boys in Primary 7 and above. New members are always welcome.

Colin Goodall

[colingoodall91@hotmail.com](mailto:colingoodall91@hotmail.com)

[\(Mobile number available on request\)](#)

### Founder's Day

**On 27th October, The Boys' Brigade celebrates Founder's Day. On this day, we celebrate the vision of Sir William Alexander Smith and the foundations that he laid for a youth organisation which is now 137 years old and is working with over 40,000 children and young people across the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland, as well as countless others across the world.**

Founder's Day is a day to mark Smith's innovation. It is a day to celebrate the many thousands of children, young people and leaders who have given so much to The Boys' Brigade and received so much in return. It is a day to reflect upon the incredible history of The Boys' Brigade whilst also reflecting on the remarkable fact that our work is as important today as it was 137 years ago.

The vision of The Boys' Brigade is that children and young people experience **"life to the full"** (John 10:10). At a time when we face many challenges, it is more important than ever that we provide current and future generations of children and young people with the opportunity to experience life to the full and, as our mission says, provide them with opportunities to **learn, grow and discover** in a safe, fun and caring environment which is rooted in the Christian faith.

**We look forward to the company leading us in worship on Sunday the 29<sup>th</sup> of October.**



September has been a very busy month at the LHM. It has seen the rebrand on social media to LHM360 with a new logo. This new logo uses the letters LHM in a new way to represent Life Hope and Meaning which is a very stark reminder of how important this service is for those who rely on it within Glasgow.

There have been many outings this month including a visit to New Lanark, the world of golf and the weekly swim sauna session which is becoming very popular as the nights draw in. In the building there has been Boxercise as well as

Virgin Money visiting for a day to offer help and advice to those who requested it. The podiatrist is also making regular visits to support the guests of the LHM as well.

As well as the harvest donations starting to come in from our Churches the Mission has been blessed with a donation from Merchant House Trust to the sum of £5000 to help support the service over the coming months.

A date for your diary is the 11<sup>th</sup> of October at 7pm when the annual service for the homeless will be held in the upstairs hall. All are welcome and the guest speaker is Rt Rev Sally Foster-Fulton.

The knit together exhibition is starting to take shape but more donations are needed. Information is available on the website or from Clare for those interested.

*Jacqueline.*



**Don't forget the clocks will go back on 29<sup>th</sup> October at 2am.**



### Lodging House Mission – Harvest Donation Requests 2023

Thank you for your continued support for LHM, we really appreciate it. We have put together a list of things that are urgently needed in the kitchen. Ideally, we would prefer donations of food stuff however we understand that this may be difficult for you. If you are able to make a financial contribution, we will ensure it is used wisely. We love fresh produce to allow us to prepare healthy and nutritious lunches for those who use our service and will buy these, as required, to prevent food waste. We hope that you find this list helpful when choosing something to donate. Thank you from all of us here at LHM.

Cereal	Tinned Fruit	Tinned Meat / Fish
Corn Flakes/Crunchy Nuts	*Peaches	Tuna/Salmon
Weetabix	*Pears	Corned beef
Rice Crispies	*Pineapples	Ham
Sugar Puffs	*Mandarins	
Frosties	*Fruit Cocktail	<b>Other Tinned Food</b>
Coco Pops	*Rice Pudding	*Baked Beans
Cheerios	*Custard	Spaghetti in sauce
		*Tinned Soups – tomato, vegetable, chicken, lentil, scotch broth, minestrone, pea & ham, chicken noodle
<b>Jars/Pastes</b>	<b>Other</b>	
Pasta bake sauces	Full Fat UHT milk	
Curry Sauce/paste	Coconut Milk	
Tomato paste	Small juice cartons	<b>Other</b>
	Diluting/fresh juice	Brown Sauce
<b>Dried Goods</b>	*Coffee	Vinegar
Mixed herbs	*Biscuits	Tomato Sauce
Garlic powder	Crisps	Porridge oats
Ground turmeric		Dried peas
Chilli powder	<b>Kettle Foods</b>	Lentils
Crushed chillies	Pot Noodles	Olive oil
Ground coriander	Cuppa Soups	*Vegetable oil
Black pepper	Tinned Potatoes	*Bisto
Salt	Sachets dried mash potato	*Veg Stock cubes/ bullion
	Ring Pull Ham tins	Broth mix
	Breakfast bars	Jam
<b>*OUT OF STOCK – URGENTLY NEED</b>	Cereal Bars	*Sugar
	Individual packets sweets	*Jelly

#### Not Required List

Pasta	Shredded Wheat Cereal	Grapefruit
Pearl Barley	Muesli	Prunes
Marmalade	Alpen	Long grain rice
Salad Cream/Mayonnaise	Red Kidney Beans	Chickpeas
<b>Toiletries</b>	<b>Clothing</b>	<b>Bedding/duvets/towels</b>



**renfield  
CENTRE**

**THE PRESBYTERY OF GLASGOW AND  
THE RENFIELD CENTRE INVITES YOU TO**

# **THE BIG BRUNCH**

**SAUSAGE      BACON      HOT ROLLS      BLACK PUDDING  
POTATO SCONE      TEA/COFFEE**

**IN AID OF**

**THE  
BRAIN  
TUMOUR  
CHARITY**

**COME AND DONATE  
FOR YOUR BRUNCH  
AND RAISE MONEY FOR  
A SPECIAL CAUSE.**

**WHEN: FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2023**

**TIME: 10AM - 12NOON**

**WHERE: THE RENFIELD CENTRE**

**260 BATH ST, GLASGOW G2 4JP**



The Guild at St. Andrews East Church begins on Wednesday 4th October at 2pm for the new session. We meet every second Wednesday and there is no Capitation Fee for the first year.

The subject on the 4th is "Secret Agent" and should prove very interesting.

A warm invitation is extended to you all. For catering purposes please let me know in advance if you are attending or wish any further information.

We look forward to seeing you.

**Loretta Bowman**

**Elder: St Andrew's East Parish Church**

(Mobile no. available on request)

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### ***Harvest Moon***

The beautiful Harvest Moon is now admired simply for its beauty, but in other times it was valued for rising early in the evening and shining so brightly that it enabled farmers and their labourers to work late into the evening to clear the last of the harvest from their fields before winter arrived.

They were totally dependent on their crops of corn, wheat and barley - often from only a few small fields - to feed their cattle through the winter months, or to sell to grain merchants for much-needed income. Without the tractors and combine harvesters we have today - with lights blazing across vast fields - the farmer was dependent on the Harvest Moon. It lit the way for his horses and workers in the fields and on the narrow and rutted cart tracks, enabling them to get the last of the precious crops into the stackyard in the last few days of harvesting. It's little wonder that they praised God so gratefully in the old hymn:

*Come, ye thankful people, come*

*Raise the song of harvest-home*

*All is safely gathered in*

*Ere the winter storms begin*

*God, our maker, doth provide*

*For our wants to be supplied*

To them the Harvest Moon was not an astronomical coincidence. It was a gift from God.



## A big Thank You



On behalf of everyone who came along and supported our MacMillan Cancer event can I say a huge thanks to you all. We managed to raise £443 for MacMillan Cancer Support as well as supporting Tram Direct Theatre's Writer & Director, Isobel Barret, increase awareness of Pancreatic Cancer. I couldn't have done it without all who kindly donated their time, effort and to everyone who came along to support it. It was an informative and emotive evening followed by fellowship and plenty of cake.

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## Life and Work Magazine



The order for Life and Work Magazine 2024 must be placed by 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The cost for the year is £42. If anyone would like a copy, please speak to June Bennie. No monies are to be paid until January 2024.

For anyone receiving a copy this year (2023) their order will be automatically renewed unless advised to June.

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*Celebrate the Festival of Harvest with the first fruits of the crops you sow in your field. "Celebrate the Festival of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in your crops from the field"*

(Exodus 23:16 NIV)



*We will celebrate our Harvest Service on Sunday the 8th of October, Join us in fellowship.*

## A Breath of Prayer

A breath of prayer in the morning  
Means a day of blessings sure  
A Breath of Prayer in the evening  
Means a night of rest secure  
A breath of prayer in our weakness  
Means a clasp of a mighty hand  
A breath of prayer when we're lonely  
Means someone to understand  
A breath of prayer in our doubting  
Assures us the Lord knows best  
A breath of prayer in our sorrows  
Means comfort and peace and rest  
A breath of prayer in rejoicing  
Gives joy and added delight  
For they that remember God's goodness  
Go singing far into the night  
There's never a year nor a season  
That prayer may not bless every hour  
And never a soul need be helpless  
When linked with God's infinite power

*(Francis McKinnon Morton)*