

**TRUST
IN THE
LORD
WITH ALL
YOUR** 
{proverbs 3:5}

The Proclaimer

The Magazine of Burnhead Parish Church

August 2022

Message From The Manse

As I sit on the deck of a caravan at Lochgoilhead, bathed in sunshine, my thoughts should be far from heating bills and the rising cost of living. Aren't holidays meant to relax, revive and de-stress.

Yet the troubles brewing for many in our community; as summer fades and autumn looms close, and the cold reality of winter approaches – are never far from my mind and the question at the forefront is, 'What can we do as individual Christians and as a Church to help those in need?'

Yes, we will continue to help those in places like Ukraine, places far from home, but the needs of those of our neighbour next door are ever increasing and our response must grow to meet that need.

You do not have to look far in the Bible to find stories from our Lord – like the Parable of the Good Samaritan – stories that show how passionate Jesus was about taking care of those in need – stories that were told to commission us to be good neighbours.

When I was working as an accountant, we often took an annual stock taking of the business; a chance to evaluate where the business was in reality; and an opportunity to plan for the future.

Perhaps this is the time for each one of us connected in any way with Burnhead Church to undergo a personal stock taking – are you someone who walks past those in need without noticing, like the priest on the way to Church in the Parable of the Good Samaritan. Are you someone who watches from the other side of the road, you see the problem but you don't think it's your job to fix it, or are you the good neighbour that Jesus calls all those who bear his name to be?

Are you giving a fitting proportion of your time, talent and money?

Burnhead Church needs you! e.g., in wanting to be a good neighbour to our community we started our Wednesday morning Safe Zone from 10am to 12noon in the Jubilee Hall. A place which provides a warm and safe zone for anyone in our community to drop in and have a chat if they wish, to help themselves to free tea, toast and biscuits if they are hungry, or to just sit in silence in a heated place they don't need to pay the fuel bill for – and yet it is in danger of not re-opening because we don't have enough volunteers willing to take a turn of being there to welcome and make a cup of tea. For more information please contact myself at the Manse.

Another initiative that needs volunteers is from the Welcome Team, who plan to run a monthly 'Soup Kitchen' for those in need in our community. This would provide a basic lunch in the main hall once a month, again a chance for those struggling to heat their homes or feed themselves, to meet in a warm welcoming place. Funding avenues are currently being explored, but it is the number of volunteers that is crucial to the success of helping those in need. Can you help? For more information, please contact David Combe.

These are just two examples of things happening that need more support, but the scope to help others in our community is wide and Burnhead Church needs your suggestions, your thoughts and especially your prayers.

We also need to hear from you if you are in need of help, please don't suffer in silence, please let us know, please don't assume that we know but don't care – sadly the grapevine of local knowledge often lets those in need down.

Yours in Christ

Les Brunger (Minister)

Presbytery Plan

At the time of writing this we are awaiting the proposed plan from Presbytery for our Church. This plan will be presented to representatives of our Kirk Session and those of our neighbouring parishes, at a meeting in Hamilton on the 30th August. We then have ten days in which to respond to the proposed plan.

We have in the past submitted a suggestion that would see Burnhead Church continue to meet as a place of worship and a source of mission to our community, but have never had a response from the planning team.

At this time, I would ask for your prayers, for those on the planning team, for your elders, and for your Church; that God's plan for Burnhead Parish would be fulfilled.

Les Brunger (Minister)

An Unexpected Journey by Lisa Loughran

As many of our congregation will know myself and my husband John became official members of Burnhead Parish Church on the 19th of June this year. What some of you may not know is that for us joining the church was a rather unexpected journey for us.

My husband and I first became interested in Burnhead church for a very different reason. When we were out on one of our many lockdown walks, we wandered into your beautiful community garden. At the time we were just beginning to put together plans to open a nursery and the church seemed perfect. So with the intentions of talking to Les further down the line when we were ready to start the process of registering a nursery, we put the idea on the back burner. However, God seemed to have a very different plan in mind for our association with the church.

My husband and I were raised in the Roman Catholic church; he was an altar boy and I was in the choir but before the idea comes up, please do not ask me to sing, I wasn't very good! Growing up the church was a big part of our lives, especially to me. I remember as a child feeling safe and welcomed and that God was a very important part of my life. But like many, as I began to grow up I realised that life is not so black and white. I began to question the rules I was expected to follow as a member of the Roman Catholic church and so I began to fall away from my faith. I thought as long as I believed in God the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit, then I did not need a house to worship him in. From time to time I would find my way back, especially when I had my own children and there were Baptisms, Communions and Confirmations but I still felt I had lost the feeling my faith used to provide. It is like in the film Dogma (if you have not seen it I highly recommend it). The main character and her friend discuss how when you are young your cup is small and so it is easier to fill but as you

grow and experience the real world it becomes more difficult to fill. The character talks of how she yearns for that feeling to return and in a way, this is what I have discovered through this journey.

Fast forward a few years and my now husband has proposed and we are trying to book our wedding. Since we are both divorced, getting married in the chapel was not allowed and so we booked a hotel wedding on the lovely coast of Ardrossan. It had all been planned and booked and with the exception of one reschedule due to Covid all was going to plan. Then at the beginning of 2022 we realised due to personal and family circumstances that we would have to move the wedding closer to home. Immediately we knew the only venue we wanted for the reception was our local bowling club, as that is where we began our love story. The problem we faced was where we would get married. We were told that St Gabriel's Church was not an option and we did not want a registry office wedding. We had a humanist that was going to do a very personal ceremony for us, we just needed somewhere to hold it. That is when Burnhead came back into our thoughts. My husband turned to me and said, "let's go see Les". So one cold January night we interrupted Les in the Manse, I think maybe it was the middle of dinner but nonetheless there we stood, on his door step asking this huge favour. We explained the situation and what we needed. Les then said something that took us both by surprise, he said yes we could use the church but he wanted to marry us. We both looked at each other and said "um but we are divorced Roman Catholics". His reply blew us away, he said your wedding is between you, me and the Big Man. We went to the vestry and had a chat and set things in motion. We left Burnhead that night feeling humbled and grateful for the kindness and understanding we were shown. We decided as a show of respect that we should attend church up until our wedding. To be honest I was dreading it, church every Sunday until April but we had made a commitment and we would honour it. On that first Sunday when

we walked in, we were immediately made to feel welcome. I loved how the children from the Sunday school were involved in the service. Now I knew the Church of Scotland liked a hymn but what I didn't know was that hymns could be fun and come with actions. The sermons were uplifting and struck a chord. My husband's favourite was that the church is a house for sinners not saints and he often quotes this to anyone who will listen. Every week I found myself looking forward to church. Even after the wedding was over with, we still found ourselves coming to church. When Les brought up officially joining we both had no doubt that this was what we wanted.

On that day, the 19th of June after attending classes after church for weeks before, I felt ready for this new step in my journey and so did John. When I knelt down and Les placed his hand upon my head I felt something I had long forgotten. I could feel this emotion swell and overflow within me. For the first time since I was a child I felt like that elusive cup that had long been empty was once again full. I feel honoured and proud to be a member of Burnhead Parish Church and I look forward to many more years to come. This journey was unexpected and I think because I spend my time over-thinking and looking for signs, I forget a very simple fact that can be found in 2 Corinthians 5:7,

"For we walk by faith, not by sight".

I'd like to thank the congregation, the minister and friends of Burnhead parish Church for returning to me something very precious... my faith.



Nurtured by Nature Kindergarten: An Early Years Day Care Nursery.

At the beginning of this year my husband and I put forward a proposal for permission to run our nursery from the Church. We were delighted when we were told that this would be possible. We are currently in the process of working with the Care Inspectorate to have the nursery registered. There is a lot of back and forth involved and it is a lengthy process. We were hoping to open our nursery for Autumn, but it is more realistic to aim for Spring 2023. Our nursery will be mostly based outdoors in the wonders of nature. The church will be mainly used as a base for the children to be dropped off and collected by their parents.

As a parent and early years practitioner I know how important high quality and interactive childcare is. I am a strong believer of the phrase “It takes a village to raise a child”. I like to be involved in my community and feel this is something that our children should be part of. Our community is a loving and enthusiastic body of people. From Gala days, spooky walks, glen conservation and trying to keep our beautiful nursery gardens open, the people of Viewpark understand the importance of a nurturing community, I would like my nursery to be a part of this. This nursery is not just for childcare, it is to provide positive early childhood experiences that will mould our children but give them the opportunity to unfold and grow into responsible citizens, full of kindness and compassion.

I have over 10 years childcare experience and I am a mum. I live with my husband John, who is a wonderful father and grandfather. We both feel strongly about children having a safe and nurturing environment to grow up in. This nursery is our chance to give something back to the children and parents of our community.

Lisa Loughran

Ten Little Christians

Ten little Christians attending in a line,
One disliked the Preacher, then there were nine.

Nine little Christians, stayed up very late,
One overslept himself, then here were eight.

Eight little Christians, on the road to heaven,
Till it started raining, then there were seven.

Seven little Christians, got into a fix,
Had a hymn they didn't like, then there were six.

Six little Christians, very much alive,
One bought a motor bike, then there were five.

Five little Christians, wishing there more,
One found the Church too cold, then there were four.

Four little Christians, kept their Sunday free,
One turned on the 'Telly', then there were three.

Three little Christians, knew not what to do,
One went to Glasgow, then there were two.

Two little Christians, our rhyme is nearly done,
One made Sunday washing day, then there was one.

One little Christian, won his neighbour true,
Persuaded him to put Church first, then there two.

Two earnest Christians, each brought in two more,
So their number doubled, then there were four.

Four little Christians, working very late,
Brought another four to Church, then there were eight.

Eight little Christians but nothing rhymes with sixteen!

So we simply note that in four more rhymes there would be 1024, which we pray is the direction Church membership would be taking.

The Five Fingers Prayer

1. Your thumb is nearest to you. So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C.S. Lewis once said, a "sweet duty".

2. The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.

3. The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the leaders of our Country, leaders in business and industry, and administrators that they may wise decisions. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God's guidance.

4. The fourth finger is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger; as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.

5. And lastly comes our little finger; the smallest finger of all. Which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, "the least shall be the greatest among you." Your pinky should remind you to pray for yourself.

By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.



SonHouse Report

In June we finished the session with our trip to Heads of Ayr Farm Park on the Saturday followed by our book presentation on the Sunday.

There were 60 adults and children at the trip and what a great day it was. After the restrictions of Covid it was so good being able mix with others again and see the children (and adults) having so much fun ... the photos say it all!



Our book presentation went well. One of our members moved on to the Bible Class – Poppy Russell. Poppy has been with us since she was three and we were really sad to see her leave. We wish her many blessings as she continues to learn of God's love.

By the time you read this our new session will just be starting. We look forward to seeing our regulars back and hopefully we will have a few new faces from our recent Kid's Club.

Please encourage any young folk you know aged 3 – 11 to come along and learn about God's love for them through stories, songs, games, crafts & dramas. Lastly, we ask that you keep all our children in your prayers.

God Bless

Anne Morton

Pre-5 Praise

Hi everyone. I hope you all had a great summer.

By the time you read this, schools and nurseries will be back in full swing!

But what about the children under the age of 5 who have nothing to do on a Tuesday morning I hear you ask.

Not to worry, why don't you bring them along to 'Pre 5 Praise!

Unsure what it is?

It's where any adult who is caring for little children on a Tuesday morning, can come along with their little one to have some fun and community in the name of Jesus.

We sing, play, hear stories and even do some craft. You might even get wee cuppa tea! And best of all, it's free!

So, come and join us on Tuesday mornings from 10am till 11.30am, starting the first Tuesday in September.

Look forward to seeing you, all the lovely ladies who help run the group and of course, all our little returners!

So until then, keep safe and know that Jesus loves YOU!

Carol

Girls' Brigade Report

We will be starting our new session on Wednesday 7th September 2022.

On that night ALL girls should meet 6:00PM – 7:30PM and parents should attend to fill out paperwork for the upcoming session, however our normal meeting times will be:-

- P1 – P3 6:00PM – 7:30PM
- P4 Upwards 7:00pm – 8:30PM

The cost is £2.00 per night, and we are hoping to start up the tuck shop again this session!

We are looking forward to getting back into the swing of things, and working properly with the girls. Any girls in primary or secondary school are very welcome to attend, we look forward to seeing you there.

Michelle Miller, Captain.

Youth Fellowship

The Youth Fellowship held a Prize Bingo night on Friday 13th May to raise funds for a weekend away to Teen Ranch. I'm glad to report it was a great success and we managed to raise £1178.15 We would like to thank everyone for the donations and all who came along on the night.



We finished upon the 2nd July with a meal at the Rolling Barrell and were glad that the minister was able to join us. We had a great day and I would like to thank all the helpers and the young ones who come every week and take part with such enthusiasm.

We are now focusing on our weekend away in September, something we are all looking forward to.

The Youth Fellowship are a small group and always looking for new faces. If you are 12 years of age or over you are welcome to come along. We meet on Sunday nights from 7:15pm till 8:45pm for fun, games and fellowship. We would love to see you there.

Bible Class

The Bible Class are looking forward to starting back up after the summer break. For those in S1 to S5, we meet in the Jubilee Hall on Sunday mornings from 11am till 12pm.

God Bless

Liz McLaughlin

The Guild

The Summer Guild resumes on Tuesday 23rd August 2022 at 1:30pm in the Extension as usual. Then we can catch up with each others news.

I trust all of you have had a good break. I hope everyone is fit and well. The formal Guild starts on Tuesday 4th October at 1:30pm. The new syllabus still has to be completed.

This year's theme is "Wee Seeds; Big Trees."

Perhaps we'll plant seeds to see how they grow into flowers, etc. I look forward to the challenge!

The Crochet Club

The Crochet Club restarts on Wednesday 17th August from 9:30am till 11:30am. This club is open to all who like to crochet.

It is amazing to see how the ladies have developed this skill to make lovely garments, toys, etc.

Midweek Reflections

The Reflections Service has resumed on Thursdays at 10am in the Jubilee Hall. The service is followed by tea, coffee and biscuits.

My thanks to the regulars for their fellowship and friendship. All are welcome.

May God Bless each one of you.

Whose we are and whom we serve.

S Roy

A MODERN DAY NOAH

In 2022, God came unto Noah, who was now living in Scotland, and said "Once again, the earth has become a wicked and over-populated place and I see the end of all flesh before me. Build another Ark and save two of everything along with a few good humans. You have 6 months to build the Ark before I will start the unending rain for 40 days and 40 nights".



Six months later God looked down and saw Noah weeping in his yard – but no Ark. "Noah!" he roared, "I'm about to start the rain! Where is the Ark?"

"Forgive me God", begged Noah, "but things have changed. I need Building Regulations Approval because the Ark is over 30m. I've been arguing with the Fire Brigade about the need for a sprinkler system. My neighbours claim I should have obtained planning permission prior to building the Ark in my garden because it is development of the site and the roof is too high. I had to appeal to the Secretary of State."

Getting the wood was another problem. All the decent trees have Tree Preservation Orders on them and we now live in a Site of Special Interest set up to protect the lesser spotted owl. I tried to convince the environmentalists that I needed the wood to save the owls –but no go! And when I started to gather the animals, the RSPCA sued me, insisting that I was confining wild animals against their will.

Then the Council, the Environment Agency and the Rivers Authority ruled that I couldn't begin the Ark until they'd conducted an environmental impact study on your proposed flood. The Trade Union states that I can't use my own sons and have insisted that I hire only accredited workers with Ark-building experience. So, forgive me God, it would take at least ten years for me to finish the Ark!"

Suddenly, the skies cleared, the sun began to shine and stretched across the sky was a big rainbow. Noah looked up in wonder and asked, "Does this mean that you're not going to destroy the world?" "No" said God "the Government has already beaten me to it!"

Bible Word Search

Y H P E S O J T G Q O E Z B W S E S O M E M V I
 M P M Y D Z C V U L E A Z G A O P N X Y G F D C
 E J R E C U D S Z W Z S V E E T S O Q R K N E N
 E C Y X C M J D D N Q T G K K J J Z H E G W M G
 S U J O V G F N T R B E G C S P Q L V T U M Z V
 O K D T W S U Z I S Y R Z M R F C W F E A U D L
 B E F I Z A O Q J U D O M A S Y C I Z P H M Y B
 T Y O K R M X A E T N E V D A G B J N S O I X N
 B N J R Y U U C H R I S T M A S C G P G L P K D
 G N B F K E A X O H B R U A F I J P F C J F R H
 H X R N V L A K Z K G X A T F W L M A R Y E A X
 L E A Y Y Q G W P M C U G Q O W C W Q I D C M K
 U J S S N H Z G M W E H T T A M Z D O D J R J N
 K V Y T T S I T P A B E H T N H O J B C T Q I W
 E N D R W Q W H S U V Q Y Q V N N H K G Z C A J
 X D K J O H N Y I T B J U S R E E H X V M Y R V
 S E L P I C S I D N G G J O I R S B X X Z H H K
 S Q V M K O S W D E H P N I A V G E W I L P D V
 K V G A C K O V I L E S T H E R U I V I N K S K
 Q I K H Q G K W R J A H P F I G A I D Y L C B G
 Y Z P W I B N N X I F I O C X L F R B S A I O A
 Y A Z T D M G F J E S U S K Y Q X C G L F C Q T
 Q R Z X K H A O N U F U G P A U L N P Q G M E Z
 M K T X J L Y V Z B S O T O L N Y L E A O B F F

John The Baptist

Christmas

Disciples

Matthew

Advent

Easter

Paul

Esther

Joseph

Samuel

Jesus

Lydia

Moses

Peter

John

Lent

Luke

Mark

Mary

Noah

What's On – A Week in the Life of Burnhead

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23

- Sunday:** 11:00 – 12:00 Service of Worship
- 11:00 – 12:00 Crèche
- 11:00 – 12:00 Sonhouse
Contact: Anne Morton – 07443 416017
- 11:00 – 12:00 Bible Class
Contact: Liz McLaughlin – 07471 933497
- 19:15 – 20:45 Youth Fellowship
Contact: Liz McLaughlin – 07471 933497
- 18:30 – 19:00 Evening Communion Service
**First Sunday of the month only*
- 19:00 – 21:00 A.A.
- Monday:** 19:15 – 20:45 Bible Study
- Tuesday:** 10:00 – 11:30 Pre-5 Praise
Contact: Carol Brunger – 07426 170261
- 13:30 – 15:00 Recycled Teenagers
Contact: Rev Les Brunger – 07806 781489
**First Tuesday of the month only*
- 13:30 – 15:00 The Guild
Contact: Sandra Roy – 01698 810113

- Wed'day:** 10:00 – 11:30 Crochet Club
Contact: Sandra Roy – 01698 810113
- 10:00 – 11:00 Private Prayer
In the McFarlane Room
- 10:00 – 11:00 Vestry Hour
- 10:00 – 12:00 Chat Zone
- 10:00 – 13:00 Citizens Advice
Contact: Margaret Sagar – 07902 565585
- 13:00 – 15:00 A.A.
- 14:00 – 15:00 Private Prayer
In the McFarlane Room
- 18:00 – 19:00 Girls' Brigade – P1 - P7
Contact: Michelle Miller – 07956 991406
- 19:15 – 20:15 Girls' Brigade – S1 and above
Contact: Michelle Miller – 07956 991406
- Thursday:** 09:30 – 10:30 Midweek Reflections
Contact: Sandra Roy – 01698 810113
- 19:00 – 21:00 Al Anon
- Saturday:** 10:30 – 12:00 Gamblers Anonymous
- 19:00 – 21:00 A.A.

Prayer Team

The church is open each Wednesday, from 10-11am and 2-3pm for private prayer. At the beginning of September, it will be held in the McFarlane Prayer Room instead of the Sanctuary. Please feel free to come along for a few minutes or more, to spend time in quiet contemplation with our Lord or to take the opportunity to use one of the prayer stations present.

The prayer table is placed at the rear of the Sanctuary, on which are forms that you are encouraged to complete if you or someone you know would like prayed for. Just place the completed form into the box provided.

At present the prayer team are beginning to plan another 'Day of Prayer'. We facilitated one before Covid and those who participated all expressed an appreciation of it, so hopefully they and YOU, will be able to join in with the next one. More info to follow.

Jesus taught, *"When you pray, do not be like hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men....but when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father who is unseen."* Matthew 6:5-8

Yours in Christ

Carol Brunger – Prayer Team Convener

Welcome Team

The Welcome Team continue to work on helping our church be seen by the congregation, members and our community as a place where everyone is made welcome and feel that they are amongst friends.

Like other churches and many other institutions, the Covid pandemic had a major impact on what we could do in terms of engaging with the community.

Hopefully, that is all behind us and we can refocus on doing what we can to support the community.

The Welcome Team are on hand to help not only members but also visitors to our church, for example they are on duty at Baptisms to welcome visitors and provide support to the members on door duty.

Prior to Covid, one new initiative we were going to try was to have a monthly free lunch open to all the community. The plan was to provide a choice of soups, sandwiches, tea, coffee and biscuits.

Given the need to encourage people to mix after the fears of Covid and with the current Cost of Living Crisis, we feel that it is more important than ever to provide such a service to local people – a hot meal and the opportunity to meet with friends new and old.

Hopefully this will be up and running shortly but as usual we would be happy for any help members of the church can give and pray that we can help people.

God Bless

David Combe – Welcome Team Convener

Social & Wellbeing Team

Towards the end of 2021 a suggestion was made that we should try to arrange a celebration of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June 2022. The team got their sleeves rolled up and came up with a Garden Party in the Church car park and, as we were hoping that Covid restrictions would be lifted by then, it would also be a "Welcome back to Church" celebration. A chance for us to get back together again and thank The Lord for bringing us through the past two & a bit years of the pandemic and lockdowns.

We enlisted the help of our Minister, Les (well he had to approve everything) and our Young People's Group. It was all hands on deck from then on and on Sunday 5th June it all came together. We even had the sun shine for us, thank you Lord.

The day started with a lovely service of thanks in the Church, led by Les, then it was on to the Garden Party where we were all surprised by a visit from Her Majesty, otherwise known as Marion Bartholomew. Thank you Marion, for your lovely speech and honestly, we really couldn't tell the difference!

Music was provided by our Keyboard King, Bill Peattie, who gave us tunes from the 40s & 50s, and Scott Young, the Disco Master playing popular songs from the 50s. It was good to see some of the congregation up doing the Slosh, although I didn't know it was a dance in the 50s, it was a chance to let your hair down and enjoy yourselves.

The young people were entertained with games and crafts organised by Liz McLaughlin & her team, thank you to all of them for their hard work in keeping the kids from getting bored by us oldies. I saw a lot of happy, smiling wee faces

(and that was the grown-ups), so it looks like they all enjoyed themselves.

A big thank you to everyone who provided sandwiches, beautiful home baking, Tunnock's caramel wafers & tea cakes, biscuits etc. There are too many of you to mention but everything was all delicious.... so delicious in fact, we had to provide doggy bags!! Oops nearly forgot Les's Caramel Shortcake, yes Les I managed to grab a wee bit before it was taken out to the tables.

To those who helped organise the day and worked so hard leading up to it, I cannot thank you enough, especially for putting up with me and my "I'm not doing this again!!!" moments. Thank you, Thank you, you all deserve medals.

The biggest thanks must go to everyone who came along and helped us celebrate

- Queen Elizabeth II's 70 years of service to her country and her Faith, a once in a lifetime occasion.
- Easing of Pandemic restrictions, a pandemic which we hope & pray is a once in a lifetime occasion.



May God Bless you all,

Liz Lacey – Social & Wellbeing Team Convener

Autumn

Autumn is one of the four temperate seasons, it marks the transition from summer into winter.

In September, when the arrival of night comes noticeably earlier and the temperature cools considerably. One of its main features is the shedding of leaves from deciduous trees as they pave way for further growth.

The leaves on some trees begin to change colour, red, orange, and gold colours giving us a wonderful display as the trees prepare for winter then new growth in the spring. This is the wonder of nature in action.

Sometimes our faith is like a tree, Strong, powerful and glorious, however sometimes we can withdraw and wait for the lighter nights and the warm weather so we can spring back to life.

Why wait for spring? Let Jesus into your life every day, feel the renewing power of the Holy Spirit as he refreshes and recharges us every day.

So like a tree sheds leaves to allow new growth, let us shed all our old ways and habits and let Jesus renew and refresh through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Be willing to soak up some light and bask in God's Word, allowing it to expose, correct and heal Leave the darkness behind and bask in the glorious light of the Lord.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17)

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

This is the power of the Lord in action.

Phil Simpkin (With Permission)

A Poem for Autumn

As we leave behind the summer
and autumn takes a hold,
as leaves turn myriad shades of red
And weather turns wet and cold
As chill wind blows it's frosty breath
Across the land, north, east and west
Fear not my friend, for we are blest.

When earth has had her well earned rest
And winter's course is run,
Trees and flowers of all hues
Burst forth in springtime sun,
With weather warm and daytime long
The birds will cheer us with their song.
Till once again the summer ends and autumn takes a hold.



KIDS' CLUB - LION KING

HAVING MISSED THE LAST TWO YEARS DUE TO COVID, IT WAS OUR JOY TO BE ABLE TO HOLD THE KID'S CLUB DURING THE FIRST WEEK IN AUGUST. BASED ON THE LION KING THEME, WE HAD A WEEK OF FUN AND GAMES AND WHILST LEARNING ABOUT GOD'S LOVE. THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ATTENDED AND ALL WHO VOLUNTEERED THEIR HELP. WE HOPE WE CAN DO IT ALL AGAIN NEXT YEAR WHEN WE WILL BE "OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD, THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF GOD!"



The Proclaimer is the magazine of Uddingston Burnhead Parish Church,
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