

# Campsie Parish Church Spring/Summer Newsletter



*May - August 2019*





*from*

**Rev. Dr Jane Denniston**

Dear Friends,

The Lord is risen, Alleluia! Although by the time you read this Easter weekend will be past and gone, the Church continues to celebrate Easter right up until Pentecost, which this year is Sunday 9th June. For seven weeks we celebrate the fact of our Lord's glorious resurrection, right through the time when he revealed himself on so many different occasions to the disciples, to his ascension which was followed by the sending of the Holy Spirit, reviving the disciples and birthing the Church. Resurrection is a theme which sits well with this time of year. After the dark bleak days of winter, when fields and trees are black and bare, the coming of spring is always welcome. Seeing the trees budding, green shoots breaking through the dark earth, lambs skipping in the fields, is a real reminder that death does not have the last word.

Life can change in a heartbeat, we know that. One moment you think you have a plan for your life, and then, out of the blue, the phone call, the message, the word, that tells you nothing will ever be the same again. This can be bad news, and life changes for the worse. Or it can be good news. So it was for Mary when she went to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus with spices. She was in mourning, tearful and grief stricken. Then confused and upset when she discovered the body gone. How much worse could it get? But in a word, everything changed. "Mary!" The voice of Jesus speaking her name, and a new life began.

The message of the cross is that God loves us. The message of the resurrection is that there is hope. Hope that winter will give way to spring, hope that the darkness will be overcome and the light will shine again, hope of life beyond death.

In a striking image from the devastated Notre Dame, a large gold cross gleams, unharmed, surrounded by black and smoking ruins.

**There is hope!!**

*Your friend*

*Jane*



## **KIRK SESSION - New elders**

On the 24th March we ordained four new elders. In an atmosphere of warmth and anticipation, a packed congregation was delighted to welcome David Irving, Robert Neilson, Lynzi Stirling, and Jardine Smith to the Kirk Session. We wish them every blessing in their new ministry and we look forward very much to working with them.





## *The Way Forward*

*When the time is ripe, the vision will come, when the heart is ready, the fruit will appear, when the soul is mature, the harvest will happen.*

*Not to worry about all the unspoken, the unnamed, the undelivered.  
Not to hurry the sprouts out of seeds. The weeds out of the garden.*

*Let it all grow, waiting for the ripening.*

*Yearn for the yielding if you must, but be patient, trust the process*

*Talk to the restlessness, sit with the confusion, dance with the paradoxes, and sip tea with the angel of midlife.*

*Smile while you wait, empty basket in hand, all too eager to snatch the produce of your spiritual path.*

*Joyce Rupp*



## Stated Annual Meeting

On Sunday 5th May we held our Stated Annual Meeting. A busy congregation heard that our finances have held up well over the last year with us being on target to meet our budgetary requirements. We do well to maintain the level of giving that we do, as we are a small congregation. However, it is an ongoing problem to make ends meet.

It costs approximately £200 per day to run Campsie Parish Church and in order to keep going we rely to some extent on the generosity of other churches. We are in fact what is known as an 'aid-receiving congregation'. Although we are grateful for the help we receive, it would be good to be financially independent and we continue to work towards that goal.

At the end of the meeting we said farewell to Andy Waugh who has been our treasurer for the past 10 years. Andy has done a sterling job but he has felt the pressure of being treasurer, alongside his own very busy full time job, for some years now.

We bid a formal farewell to Andy at the Stated Annual Meeting last year, but due to the minister's personal crisis, a replacement was not found at that point. Andy has soldiered on in the interim, and we are deeply grateful for his commitment during this difficult time. Although we are sorry to see him go, we wish him well as he retires from the role of treasurer.

Andy's place is being taken by Rosemary Kell, who is new to our congregation. Rosemary, a long-time member of Bo'ness St Andrews, started coming along in February, and although she has not been with us very long is happy to help out as our treasurer. Rosemary's background and experience are such that she is well able to fulfil the duties of treasurer.

***We welcome Rosemary to her new role and look forward to getting to know her over the coming months and years.***



# Sri Lanka



Everyone has been stunned and shocked by the events of Easter Sunday in Sri Lanka. Churches the length and breadth of Scotland joined with others throughout the world in praying for our brothers and sisters in Christ since that awful day when Christians gathered to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and lost their lives so violently.

On Sunday 5th May we stood with the people of Sri Lanka and tied white ribbons in various places around the Church, as a symbol of our solidarity and our prayers for them. The Church flowers also featured white ribbons, cleverly woven into the arrangement.

This was as a result of a request from Right Rev Susan Brown, Moderator of the General Assembly.

She urged congregations to give generously and to remember that country in prayer.



*Photographs will be sent to St Andrew's Church, Colombo to assure them of our concern.*

The evening service on 12 May, was a service of prayer for Sri Lanka and we heard some tragic tales of loss and pain. We were glad to be able to support them in prayer and our evening highlighted the fact that the Christian family is a worldwide one.

Our brothers and sisters in Sri Lanka are just as much in need of our prayers and support as our brothers and sisters in the UK.

We also prayed for those in hotels, who lost loved ones, due to the violence.



# Walk all over Cancer

Caroline Hunter

**The evening of 28th February:** I sat in front of the computer gazing anxiously at the screen. There was one question in my mind – *should I? Or should I not?*



Should I press the button which would commit me to walk 10,000 steps every day during the month of March? Not that 10,000 steps was a problem – it was the thought of doing this every day no matter the weather or how I felt.

And then I thought – I'm still fortunate enough to be able to do this, so why not? It could be a personal challenge and would help a much needed and very worthy cause. So I pressed the button! The next consideration was: would anyone sponsor me, who could I ask? So I brought the form into church and at the end of the service I already had enough sponsors to make my goal of raising £100 possible. Brilliant!

All I had to do was to go out for a lovely walk every day. Simple. It all started out so well. The snowdrops were blooming in Schoenstatt – a sure sign that Spring was on its way.

Now, we all know the quote from Burns: *'The best laid schemes o' Mice an' Men Gang aft agley'* Just a few days into the month of March I took a mega cold. How do you walk 10,000 steps when you're lying in bed going through boxes of paper hankies? I would walk down the stairs, along the hall and into the kitchen, again and again until the pacer registered 2,000 steps, and then go back to bed. Of course, this had to be repeated 4 more times each day. In order to make it less boring, I thought I could set up an 'assault' course by putting chairs and boxes around the house and walk round them – again and again! Fortunately, after a few days, I was able to go outside again but it did remind me that, for many people undergoing long term treatment for various types of illness, time indoors would not be confined to just a few days but many weeks or months.

All in all, it was a very exhilarating and interesting month. I met other people regularly sharing the various paths I was treading. Making time to do a walk each day was a challenge but it was a good way to get out and appreciate God's wonderful Creation whatever the weather, as well as a good opportunity to take time during Lent to take stock of the year that had just passed and look forward to the brightness and hope of Easter.

The month began with snowdrops but ended with hosts of golden daffodils and buds beginning to open on the trees and hedgerows.



And, thanks to the generosity of Campsie Parish and other friends, the final total raised was **£300**.

I received a letter from Cancer Research UK. Here is what they said:

*'Thank you very much for your kind donation of £300 that you recently sent to us. We're so grateful for your fantastic support..... Please pass on our warmest thanks to everyone who helped to make this donation possible'.*

**So - A big 'Thank You' from Caroline Hunter**

**Well Done, Caroline!**

# Recycle Charity

This is just a little reminder to keep putting your used Ink Jet Cartridges in the box in the Foyer. We raise small amounts each time but every little helps.

To date we have raised **£142.90p**.

Can I also remind you that they  
**NO LONGER take MOBILE  
PHONES or TONER CARTRIDGES.**

I would be grateful if these were not put in the box.

**ONLY INKJET CARTRIDGES PLEASE!**

Many thanks

*Christine Boyle*





# Campsie Guild

On 30th April members of Campsie Guild enjoyed an outing to Loch Lomond Shores. Despite previous sunny days the sky was cloudy and overcast but fortunately the rain kept off. A drive via the 'old military road' took us to our destination in a short time. Obviously, with much modernisation, this road actually dates back to the 1700s. In the Old Statistical Account of 1795 it describes this road from Stirling to Dumbarton as being 'made betwixt 30 or 40 years ago'.

The modern phrase - retail therapy - would be an apt description of the next hour or so as by the time we gathered in The Balcony for lunch many carrier bags were visible.



Then it was off to Sweeney's boat yard for a cruise on Loch Lomond on the Astina. An informative commentary, narrated by Neil Oliver, enabled us to recognise the buildings and islands which we passed. Sadly the Ben was not to be seen but everyone enjoyed their trip - especially being .....



***'By yon bonny banks and by yon bonny braes'.***

## Upcoming Services



<b>Date</b>	<b>Services</b>
Sunday 26th May	11am Worship followed by a short act of Communion JAM Club Rev. Dr Jane Denniston
Sunday 2nd June	11am Morning Worship with Communion JAM Club Rev. Dr Jane Denniston
Sunday 9th June	11am Morning Worship Rev. Dr Jane Denniston 6.30pm Evening Worship A taster of the worship of the Taize Community
Sunday 16th June	11am Worship Family Service Rev. Dr Jane Denniston and JAM Club Picnic
Sunday 23rd June	11am Worship Rev. Dr Jane Denniston
Sunday 30th June	11am Worship followed by a short act of Communion Rev. Dr Jane Denniston

## Eleven reasons why a minister stopped attending athletics meetings!

- 1 *Every time I went they asked me for money*
- 2 *The people with whom I had to sit didn't seem very friendly*
- 3 *The seats were too hard and not comfortable*
- 4 *The coach never came to call on me*
- 5 *The referee made a decision with which I could not agree*
- 6 *I was sitting with some hypocrites - they came only to see what others were wearing*
- 7 *Some games went into overtime and I was late getting home*
- 8 *The band played some numbers that I had never heard before*
- 9 *My parents took me to too many games when I was growing up*
- 10 *Since I read a book on sports I feel that I know more than the coaches anyhow*
- 11 *I don't want to take my children as I want them to choose for themselves what sport they like best*

### Postscript

***"With apologies to those who use these same excuses for not coming to Church"***

*Christine Boyle*

## Prayer Life at Campsie



*We give  
thanks for  
answered  
prayers.*

**If you personally have a particular need or concern that you would like your fellow 'pray-ers' to pray about...**

*Please just let me know.*

*In Christian Love,*

Joan Thomson

Mobile: 07719 553829

Email: [jjthomson62@btinternet.com](mailto:jjthomson62@btinternet.com)





## A Recipe To Dream

*Take one dream. Dream it in detail. Put it into your own hands. See its final outcome clearly in your mind.*

*Mix with a little effort and add a generous portion of self-discipline.*

*Flavour it with a wholesome pinch of ambition.*

*Stir brisk with confidence until mixture becomes clear.*

*The dough separated from the resolution.*

*Bake at an even temperature in a moderate mind until the dream rises and is firm to the touch.*

*Decorate with individuality.*

*Cut into generous portions and serve with love.*

*Blessing is what almost always comes to those who use the recipe for dreaming and, having dreamed their dream, and never, never give up until they have it*

***The recipe comes from God, Seek it....***



# Calling all Cooks!

*Or cooks to be!!!!*

**A Campsie Parish Church Recipe book is  
being published soon, and your recipes  
are needed....**

*If you are willing to share your  
favourite recipes we would be so  
pleased to include them in our Recipe  
Book.*

Please give recipes to Morven Hinsen or  
Muriel Connell for inclusion in the book

**By 31st May 2019**

**Contact Details:**

**Morven Hinsen** email: [morvenhinson@gmail.com](mailto:morvenhinson@gmail.com)

**Muriel Connell** email : [murieljconnell@gmail.com](mailto:murieljconnell@gmail.com)

## Information page

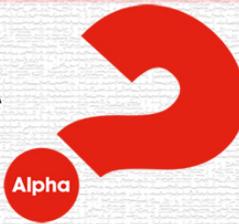


**Rainbow Cafe**  
*Reaching Out  
in our Community*

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June**  
*Lunch*  
**12 - 2.00pm**

*In Aid Of*  **MAGGIE'S**  
Everyone's home of cancer care

# The ALPHA COURSE



*Is running on Wednesday evenings at 7.00pm  
from 24th April until 26th June*

**Please join us**  
**You are most Welcome**



*For more information or to RSVP, contact:*  
**Jane Denniston 07760 828725**  
[Jane.Denniston@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:Jane.Denniston@churchofscotland.org.uk)



Thank you to all who have contributed to this Newsletter. This is your voice, so please continue to forward interesting articles which can be shared with the community.

**Muriel Connell**

**07493 735313**

**Email : [murieljconnell@gmail.com](mailto:murieljconnell@gmail.com)**



## Campsie Parish Church

Main Street

Lennoxtown G66 7HA

Tel 01360 310939

Website: [www.campsie.org.uk](http://www.campsie.org.uk)

Scottish Charity Number: SC000835

