

Eastwood Parish Church of Scotland Crossbeam—November 2020

From the Manse...

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that November is here and we are still in the throes of pandemic restrictions. It is hard to believe that we have just turned the clocks back as official summertime has ended, and that we are looking out our warm hats, scarves and gloves. It is hard to believe the gardens around us are now hibernating for the winter, the birds are now out looking for winter food and trying to find shelter to rest during the cold days and nights.

We are in November, a month of looking back and looking forward. The days grow shorter and we begin to value the precious hours of daylight that we have left for our physical and mental wellbeing. The Bible too is full of images of light and darkness, from the beginning of the book of Genesis, through to the last chapters of Revelation, throughout these pages light is a powerful sign of God's presence. Jesus in the New Testament tells us that he is the light of the world, whoever follows him will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. He also used the imagery to talk about his disciples as the light of the world.

As we begin the darkest time of the year we also enter a time of remembering. We remember the dark times of war and conflict that have scarred our history and seared many families with the absence of loved ones. Those dark days of war and fear we remember so that we can try and bring light and peace to our world today. There are still conflicts around the world, and at a time of remembrance we bring to mind the past and pray for the future that those dark hours will not return.

The darkness of November has the potential to be exacerbated by the restrictions that we find ourselves living



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under during this time. We know how important light and hope is to our health and for the health of all growing things, and it is vital that we find ways to sustain this over the winter months.

December for us is a month where hope will come. This world appears so weary and yet, at Christmas, 'hope' appears. The message of Christmas speaks to us of 'a thrill of hope'. For a baby was born at Christmas to give us all hope. Hope that this world can be a better place. That a cure can be found to the pandemic. Hope of new life and resurrection. 'A thrill of hope' was born in a stable in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago and endures today.

Please remember you are not alone over these coming winter months. If there is anything we can do to help, from food shopping to collecting a prescription, please get in touch with myself or our Session Clerk, Erika Watt.

Your friend and minister,
Jim Teasdale

Remembrance Sunday

This year Remembrance Sunday is on Sunday 8th November. A two minutes silence will be held during both the ZOOM service and the sanctuary service. The sanctuary service will be at the usual time of 11.15.

Normally we have a retiral collection in aid of Poppy Scotland and we would like to continue to raise funds for this vital work. If anyone would like to make a donation to Poppy Scotland please forward it, either by bank transfer (marked as Poppy Collection) or directly to the treasurer.

Live Streaming

As some of you are aware, I have been phoning round (your turn will come if it hasn't already!) to gauge interest in the Live Streaming or recording of the service .

With the announcement of further Covid-19 restrictions and the realisation that this situation will be round for many, many months we have tried to look at ways of ensuring that all our church family have access to worship .

We currently have the ZOOM service at 9.30am and the sanctuary service at 11.15am. From 29th November (approximately) we are arranging to stream the service live on the church's 'YouTube' channel. This will be as easy as using Zoom and there will be help and guidance available for those (like me!) who struggle with technology.

This will allow us all to watch the service as it is actually happening. It will also allow us to record and post out a copy of the DVD to those members of our church family who don't have the internet. This will allow them to see the service and continue to feel part of the church family.

We would like to thank Alistair and Ewan McLachlan who are the techno whizzes behind this and to the Beadles who will be running the system on a Sunday morning.

We would also like to say a massive thank you to the anonymous member who made a donation to cover the cost of the new equipment which will make this possible.

It's exciting times during these dark days!

Erika Watt
(Session Clerk)

Gift Service

Although we are currently unable to meet as we normally would for worship, the WOP Group are acutely aware of the need for Christmas gifts for children and teenagers, who may not receive anything this year. Due to current restrictions, and to enable the safe distribution of gifts, this year's service will be held on **Sunday 29th November**.

Could you help by donating a gift? There are three different ways you can do so:

1. By bringing a gift to our Church service on 29th November at 11.15
2. By contacting either the Minister or Erika Watt, who will arrange for someone to come to your house and collect the gift - **this will happen during the week beginning Monday 23 November**
3. Alternatively, you can make a donation either through the bank (please write 'gift service' in the reference box) or by contacting Katie Morrison, who will arrange to collect your donation and then purchase a gift on your behalf.

All gifts will be donated to Glasgow City Council Social Work Department. Please remember to leave all gifts unwrapped and label any wrapping paper with the appropriate gender and age for the gift.

Thank you, in anticipation, for your donation, which will bring a little bit of joy to one of Glasgow's children this Christmas.

Advent Bible Study

This year the Minister is offering an Advent Bible Study, entitled '**To Live Again**', based on the film '**It's a Wonderful Life**.' This will be held on ZOOM on Sunday evenings, beginning on **29 November 2020 from 7 – 8.30 pm**. Everyone is welcome. For those who maybe are not able/do not want to access ZOOM, Jim can provide you with copies of his study notes. All you would need is a copy of the film.

Upcoming Services

Although subject to any relevant Scottish Government or Church of Scotland Guidelines, we will continue to provide worship each week at 9.30 am on ZOOM and at 11.15 am in the Sanctuary building. Therefore, our future services/events are as follows:

8 November 2020 – Remembrance Sunday Services: There will be an act of Remembrance at both the 9.30 and 11.15 am services. Please note that due to logistics, we are **not** altering start times.

15 November 2020 – Communion Sunday: The Minister will celebrate Communion at both services. If you are joining us on ZOOM, please provide your own bread and wine.

29 November 2020 – The Gift Service: Please see the article regarding this service in this edition of Crossbeam.

13 December 2020 – The Youth Service: The Minister and Sunday School leaders are currently working on this service, more information will be provided in due course.

24 December 2020 at 7 pm – ‘A Christmas Bed Time Story’: The young and ‘young at heart’ are welcome to join the Minister on ZOOM, for a bed time story.

25 December 2020 at 10.30 am – Christmas Day Worship: This 35 minute service will be held on ZOOM and everyone is welcome.

27 December 2020 – Service of 9 Lessons and Carols: We know we cannot sing, so at both services, you can expect something a little bit ‘different’.

An Online Thought A Day For Advent

Thanks to the hard work of Karen, Emma and Amy Allan, from 1 December – 25 December, a ‘thought’ for the day will appear on our Church Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/eastwoodparishchurch

Why not click on the page everyday and share the content with your Facebook Friends and others!

Charity Fundraising: Advent/ Christmas 2020

Over the years at Eastwood, the congregation has been very generous in donating to charity. Although this year is 'different' the needs are still there. This year we would ask for your help to raise funds for the work of The Lodging House Mission. If you would like to make a donation, please either pay directly into the church bank with "Lodging House" as the reference or send a cheque to Katie Morrison. If you would like bank details, please contact Katie Morrison on 07739 564 868.

Church Fundraising

As we start to think about our Christmas shopping, more and more of us will be turning to online shops this year. But did you know that you could also raise money for Eastwood, while you're making your online purchases.

If you're shopping on Amazon, register for Amazon Smile at smile.amazon.co.uk Once you sign up, you will be asked to choose a charity to donate to. Make sure you pick Eastwood Parish Church. Each time you shop after that, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of any eligible purchases to Eastwood.

If you're shopping on any other website, try using Easyfundraising at www.easyfundraising.org.uk Again, you'll need to sign up and choose the charity you want to donate to. After that, start your online shop by logging in to Easyfundraising then go to your chosen website from there. When you make a purchase, Easyfundraising will automatically donate a percentage of the cost of your purchase to Eastwood.

Go on—it's all for a good cause!

Life and Work

All Life and Work subscriptions will automatically renew in January 2021. The cost of this will be a one-off payment of £36. Those who receive the magazine through the church will receive details of how to make this payment in the New Year.

However, Life and Work are currently running a promotion aimed at making it easier for people to receive the magazine. They are giving subscribers the chance to have the magazine delivered directly to their home rather than receiving it through their church, at a time when it is difficult for many to get to church. If you switch to this method of delivery, Life and Work are offering you two free issues of the magazine, bringing the payment down to £30. This payment, however, needs to be made by direct debit.

If you are interested in taking advantage of this offer, either as an existing or a new subscriber, please contact Felicity Teasdale for a personal order form and direct debit instruction. Both should be returned by email to admin@lifeandwork.org or posted to: Life and Work, 121 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 4YN. This offer is available throughout 2021, so you can make this change at any time.

If you prefer, you can subscribe to a digital edition of Life and Work at www.lifeandwork.org

Church Family News

Thank yous: Anne Robb, Anne Middleton, Jeanette Aitken and everyone else who has been given flowers recently, say thank you for the kindness they have received.

Birthdays: Hawthorne Stewart would like to thank everyone for the gifts, cards and flowers that he received for his recent birthday. Mary Marshall would also like to thank everyone for the flowers and cards she received to mark her 'big' birthday.

What's On At Eastwood

SUNDAY

10.00 am	Faithbook (1 st and 3 rd Sundays)
11.15 am	Worship
11.00 am	Sunday School (age 2 to 16)

Contact

Erika Watt
Rev Jim Teasdale
Katie Morrison

MONDAY

10.00 am	English Literacy Classes
12 noon	The Lunch Club Open on the 1 st and 3 rd Mondays of the month from 12noon (except July and August)

Christine Nanguy
E:info@pollokshawsaln.org

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all activities except for Sunday worship are suspended until further notice.

FRIDAY

9.30 am	Slimming World
7.00 pm	Badminton (from October to May)

Lesley Clark

SATURDAY

10.30 am	Coyle Irish Dancers
7.00 pm	EPYC

Suzanne Coyle
Erika Watt

Church Contacts

Minister	Rev Jim Teasdale	0141 571 7648	JTeasdale@churchofscotland.org.uk
Session Clerk	Erika Watt		
Treasurer	Katie Morrison		
Halls Convener	John Smith		
Roll Keeper	Jamal Issa		
Magazine Editor	Felicity Teasdale		