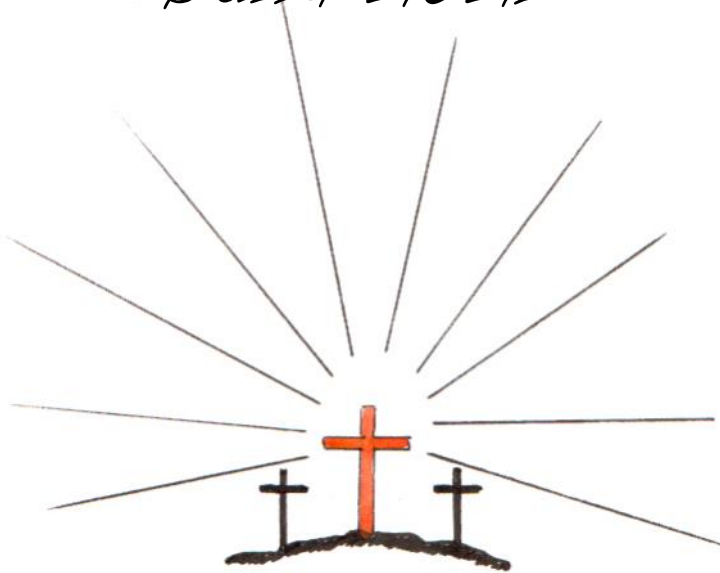


Ayr:St Quivox Parish Church

June 2021



SUNDAY SERVICES

Alternate between Auchincruive and Dalmilling

GO TO WEBPAGE FOR UPDATES

www.ayrstquivox.com

MINISTER Tel: 01292 861641
Rev John McCutcheon

SESSION CLERK Tel: 01292 315 529
David McMahon



At the time of writing this I am not sure whether it will be a printed copy of the church magazine that you will be reading or whether it will be the electronic, on-line version that we have been using over the last year. Whilst Elizabeth has ensured that the electronic version of the magazine has maintained its same high standard, we are aware that the majority of our church members have been unable to access it. Therefore, we have been unable to keep in contact with everyone in a way that we would have liked. For those who never saw these magazines, you missed a treasure trove of good and interesting reading.

The good news for us as a church is that we have restarted our worship services on a Sunday morning, and hopefully over the next few months we can start to see a bit more regular activity within our buildings as the easing of lockdown continues.

I must admit that we are now in my favourite time of the year, when we wonder what day summer is going to be on; will it be in June, July or August? I think we all need a blast of good weather akin to last year's summer to cheer us up. The sun seems to have that effect on most of us.

As the sun shines on us, may we also give thanks for the Son shining on us and in us (see what I did there ☺). At times of great stress and worry it can be easy for us to overlook and forget that Jesus is alongside us in all that we are facing. But we have plenty of promises and assurances such as "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

It has been great meeting so many of our church family when

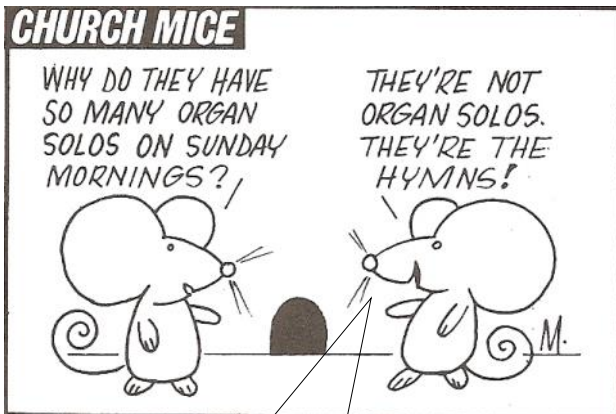


circumstances allowed, and I am once again making my way round as many of you as possible.

If you are unable to make worship on a Sunday I would urge you to get in touch with me if you want me to come and visit you or you have any specific needs. There is no need for you to go through things on your own, or feel forgotten about. We are a family and everyone belongs.

To finish, the last 18 months or so weren't the ones I was expecting, when I was inducted in December 2019. That said, I am enjoying being your minister, and you have made me feel very welcome.

John



A covid secure service means no singing allowed!

Long Service



Willie Campbell celebrates 50 years as an Elder in the Church of Scotland.

Willie Campbell celebrated this wonderful achievement on Sunday 9th May and is shown with his Certificate signed by the Moderator.

Our Session Clerk was able to deliver a wee Afternoon Tea in a Box and a Card to Willie on Tuesday as a gesture from the Congregation congratulating this Golden Anniversary and 50 years of magnificent service to St. Quivox Parish Church.

Well done Willie Campbell!





FUNERALS

March 9th	John Cuthbert, 13 Gorse Park
March 23rd	Mary Bryce, Glenfairn Care Home
April	Irene McRorie, Claremont Care Home
April 21 st	Sarah 'Sadie' McCormack, 15 Dalmilling Crescent
May 5 th	Aileen Mcllellan, 51 Cowan Crescent



“Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Revelations 21:

In Remembrance

Over the last year, for a small congregation proportionally, we have lost a lot of our members. Some of them were still in attendance at our worship services up until lockdown, whilst others were unable to be with us as frequently as they used to be. Nonetheless as a church and a community we feel the loss and miss them dearly. However, they will not be forgotten and we will have a special service at some point later in the year to remember all those we have loved and lost. That will happen when we can have our services in a way which we are familiar with.

John



As we prepare for our June communion, it is an ample opportunity for us, both individually and collectively as a church, to take stock and look into the future, but to also breathe, catch our breaths and take a look at everything we have come through over the last year. And one thing is for sure, it hasn't been easy, but unfortunately if we have learned anything at all over the last year it is that we can't take things for granted and believe that things will start to get better over the next few months.

I said in my statement at the Annual Stated Meeting in May, as a church we go into the future facing unprecedented challenges. We will have to be make decisions that may be hurtful and unpopular. Unfortunately, we have no other options.

We will also be revisiting the Presbytery plan over the next few months, which will see a reduction of Full Time ministers in Ayr, as it will do throughout Scotland. For us at St Quivox, it will mean either linking, or going into a Union, with one of the other churches in the area. It will also mean that the parish boundaries will grow considerably larger. But no matter what the future has for us, as we take the bread and wine at communion, and whether we do it from our homes or at church may we feel the presence of Jesus alongside us. A presence that isn't there as a one off experience for the 'Holy times' of the church year but instead is there at all times, to guide us and reassure us that no matter what we face Jesus' presence ensures we won't be going through all those challenges and decision making on our own.



Communion 6th June at Auchincruive



For those of our members who are unable to get to church a home communion is available if you feel you want it or if it would be helpful.

Please feel free to get in touch if I can help you with this.

John

Tel: 01292 861641



We try our best to keep our congregation as informed with church life as possible. Unfortunately, our Admin system tends to only have everyone's home addresses. If anyone wants to furnish us with their email addresses this will help us to keep in touch with everyone in a better manner.

We can also assure you that we don't pass anyone's information on to third parties

John

JMcCutcheon@churchofscotland.org.uk

**Session Clerk's 2020 Report** (April 2021)

2020 has been a year like no other, dominated as it was, with the outbreak of the Covid 19 Virus which altered every aspect of our Church life and activities, away beyond anything any one of us could have imagined. The arrival and rapid spread of the potentially lethal Covid 19 Virus In mid-March, resulted in total lockdowns imposed by the Government, and as a result our Churches and their associated Buildings were closed and all Services, Meetings and Activities, which had followed their normal activities and timetables, were cancelled until further notice, seriously affecting our Income.

Our Stated Annual Meeting was the first 'casualty' and was postponed, eventually taking place later in a Zoom On-line format. This facility was used throughout the year for Kirk Session and other Group meetings.

The first year for a new Minister in their first Charge, meeting and building relationships with the Congregation through regular Worship at Church and home visits throughout the Parish is difficult enough under normal circumstances, but when your Church is suddenly closed and home visits are forbidden under National Lockdown conditions, after only 3 months in post, the situation becomes hugely difficult and challenging.

Our new Minister, the Rev. John McCutcheon has responded magnificently to the challenge of maintaining our presence as a working Church in St. Quivox Parish through the limited Services in Church when allowed from November to Christmas, phone calls and home visits where practical. Although our Church was closed for Funerals, John has officiated at many. The use of modern Information Technology using our Website, Facebook, Messenger and Zoom platforms have been invaluable in helping get the Word out there – although not all members of our congregation have the means to receive it.



In this regard we are indebted to Rev. John for recording a Video Church Service every week to appear in our fresh, newsy and vibrant Website expertly edited and produced by Eileen Williams. This includes quarterly editions of our Church Magazine by Elizabeth Brechany who also handles our Facebook Page, and musical items from our Organist Jennifer McCutcheon, Owain Pierce-Williams and Fraser McClelland.

Although our Church Buildings have been closed, there is still a lot of hard work and effort that goes on behind the scenes to honour our obligations and keep things in order, and to ensure we comply with the conditions in place, Nationally and at Church of Scotland level, at any given time, and there have been many!

On behalf of our Congregation – Grateful Thanks to: Our Minister: The Rev. John McCutcheon; and to all those within the Finance & Accounts Team, Fabric Team, Mission and Outreach, Presbytery Elder, Roll Keeper, Organist, Health & Safety: Safeguarding & Fire Officer, Minute Secretary & Webmaster, Magazine & Facebook Editor, Heating Timers, Cleaning & Sanitising Teams and those carrying out Water Checks in our buildings.

I repeat what was written in my report for last year: “I have little to add to what has already been reported on, other than to thank everyone in our Church for what they do to help hold our Congregation together.” Thanks also to anyone not mentioned in this report as everyone’s contribution - big or small - is vital.

David McMahan.



TREASURER'S REPORT 2020 (Colin)

You will recall that the 2020 Accounts were approved and signed off at our Session Meeting on 23rd February so I don't intend to go back over them again. If anyone would like a further copy of them, please let me know and I can either email them a copy or let them have a hard copy if required. They were subsequently approved by our Independent Examiner and adopted by Presbytery and passed by OSCR. A copy was also sent to Church of Scotland.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported me during a very difficult year. It had made things so much easier for me.

WORSHIP GROUP REPORT 2020 (Colin)

There was nothing undertaken during the year in view of the Coronavirus restrictions.

The Group is now down to two members, Gwyn and myself.

MISSION AND OUTREACH REPORT 2020 (Pat)

Due to the current crisis, the committee has been unable to meet during the past year. Until the church closed in March, volunteers from the committee supported the Faith Food & Fun events, the 127 Club and the Teddy Bear Tots. Plans for an Easter event were cancelled because of the pandemic.

The activities of NORTH AYR THEGITHER were also severely curtailed. Initially the Family/Development Worker was on furlough, but gradually as restrictions eased, he has been on a mixture of percentage furlough and working.

Activities currently being managed include as restrictions have allowed:

- Wild Rhythm music group latterly via Zoom
- One to one support with children at Dalmilling Primary School and Ayr Academy
- Individual Mentoring Sessions with vulnerable men
- Friday Prayer meeting via Zoom



- Monthly Prayer meetings with the North Ayr Grouping Churches via Zoom

Activities until the onset of the pandemic:

- Faith Food and Fun monthly meeting to deliver a short Christian Message
- Assisting with Room 60 at Newton Wallacetown Church
- 127 Afterschool Club
- Scripture Union classes with pupils at Dalmilling Primary School

FABRIC REPORT 2020 (Gwyn)

The beginning of 2020 saw the completion of repairs to both churches required from the last quinquennial report. These repairs were carried out by the fabric team and External Roofing Contractors. There remained some roofing issues at Dalmilling which were revised by the roofing firm but are still under review.

Organ repairs were carried out at Auchincruive.

Then Covid became a feature and the main focus of the fabric team was to undertake regular checks of both churches, initially every two weeks and then every week in accordance with Church of Scotland instruction. Four members took turns to do these checks.

There were no problems encountered during 2020.

Website: www.ayrstquivox.com



Facebook: Search for Ayr St Quivox Parish Church

For information on Events being planned





TREASURER'S REPORT



The 2020 Annual Accounts have been approved by Presbytery, signed off by our Independent Examiner and subsequently accepted by OSCR.

This year unfortunately continues with the difficulties that we endured last year. Things may get a bit better as we have opened the Church again for our Sunday services and are receiving our weekly offerings again. In addition, with the Dance groups starting again, we are receiving some Rental income.

However our Bank balance has reduced by 9% this year but would have been 30% had we had not received two very generous legacies from two of our Church members who have sadly passed away recently. This position is not sustainable.

The Elders are very aware of the support that members and congregants have given to the church over the years both in practical terms and in their financial support of the life and work of the church in this parish. They, as Trustees for the church, will continue to closely monitor the financial health of the church and hopefully continue as far as we can their work in the parish community through pastoral care, on-line church services and the church services in our buildings, as well as through the church's website www.ayrstquivox.com.

Colin Mutch





We reopened our doors on Good Friday, and it was great to see friends and share in worship once again. This had come after a year of churches being closed then open and closed again. During this time there was a big drain on our finances with a reduced income from church members and no rent. Meanwhile we still had to pay for the upkeep and maintenance of our buildings.

Over the last year we have resorted to technology during periods of closure. This included updating our website to keep it relevant and informative during these difficult times. Our Webmaster has done a sterling job in doing this and producing a weekly service incorporating videos provided by our minister. We have also used Facebook posts to notify our followers when services are available.

What does the future hold for the church with insufficient ministers and reduced finances? As the minister has stated earlier in this magazine change is likely to happen not only in Ayr but all over Scotland. Thinking objectively do we really need eight churches in a town the size of Ayr? Do we have the finances and bodies to be able to sustain this level? As I see it the answer is no. But who decides what happens? Is it dependent on the number of worshippers? Do we sell off our buildings or try to maintain a presence in the community even though we may no longer worship there?

In these unprecedented times let us remember that whatever happens God is always with us guiding us along whichever path we must trod.

Elizabeth Brechany

Can you name the eight churches in Ayr? Alloway is not included and remember Dalmilling and Auchincruive are buildings within Ayr: St Quivox.

There are also four in Prestwick. Can you name them?



Since lockdown was announced a year past in March, and in person services being limited to either online events or to restricted numbers when restrictions were eased, the opportunity of worship has been limited for many, especially those who do not have access to computers, the internet and online resources.

And so, hats off to the BBC for providing us with 'Reflections at the Quay' which has served many people well over the last year. In the first four weeks of broadcast over quarter of a million people had tuned in to watch either all or part of it. A sign that there was/is a hunger for this type of programme, as services are led by ministers and priests from nearly every walk of Christian life.

I know from those I have spoken to that it has been greatly appreciated.

The service contains a mixture of traditional and contemporary music, and is definitely different from programmes such as 'Songs of Praise'. 'Reflections' certainly carries a Scottish flavour and plays to the strengths of being different but also not different enough to make us want to turn it off.

When it stopped in the later part of last year it caused an uproar and an online petition was formed for it to be reinstated, which it duly was at the beginning of this year as we went back into lockdown.

It has been a welcome addition to Sunday mornings for those times when we were unable to join together in our particular places of worship. And the diversity of the music has perhaps opened our eyes to what is possible.

As well as 'Reflections' the BBC Scotland channel has a service at 12 o'clock from a church somewhere in Scotland, which is a bit more traditional, but again can be quite diverse depending on the nature of the church/minister that is leading the worship.

Both programmes have been welcomed especially at a time when we



have had to find new ways of worshipping during lockdown. We can't say for sure whether they will remain on the BBC's planning schedule for the future but hopefully they will be.

If you have not taken the opportunity of watching either of these programmes, you should. They are available on BBC i-player or check the schedules for Sunday mornings, (but only if you can't be at church



John

The Difference

I got up early one morning and rushed right into the day;

I had so much to accomplish and I didn't have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me and heavier came each task.

Why doesn't God help me? I wondered. He answered, You didn't ask'.

I wanted to see joy and beauty but the day toiled on, grey and bleak,

I wondered why God didn't show me. He said, But you didn't seek'

I tried to come into God's presence; I used all my keys at the lock.

God gently and lovingly chided, My child you didn't knock.

I woke up early this morning and paused before entering the day.

I had so much to accomplish and I had to take time to pray.

anon.



Brownies



by 1st Dalmling Brownies Brown Owl Lise Whittle

Brownies has continued with weekly email activities and online meetings.

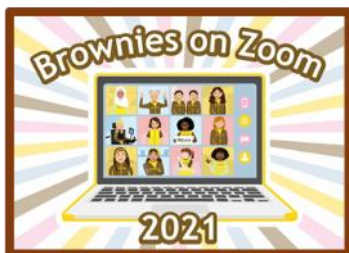


22nd February is World Thinking Day.

Lord Baden-Powell started Scouting, and his wife Lady Olave Baden-Powell started Girlguiding.

They both had the same birthday - 22nd February - and chose that date as 'Thinking Day' each year. The aim of Thinking Day is for

children from all over the world to think about other Scouts and Guides across the world, and to celebrate international friendships. Girlguiding Scotland hosted a fun and exciting World Thinking Day on the Girlguiding Facebook page online which the Brownies were invited to take part in. It included crafts, storytelling, a graphic design demonstration, digital drawing, saying the Girlguiding Promise in Gaidhlig, a dance routine, a cookery demonstration, and how to make everyday things FUN! Girlguiding Ayrshire South also emailed out a Thinking Day activity pack including Makaton signing, Morse code, phonetic alphabet, crafts, colouring, and links to many other activities around the world. So the girls had plenty to entertain themselves with over Thinking Day!



The Brownies have enjoyed their weekly activity emails which we send to them, as well as two virtual Sleepovers on Zoom with two other Brownie units. They enjoyed Easter craft ideas to do at home, and we were all really pleased that John and Elizabeth joined us for



our Easter zoom party. We played Bunny Beans, had a Scavenger Hunt, made origami bunnies, had an Easter True or False quiz, stuffed our mouths with marshmallows and said 'Chubby Bunnies' three times (you should try it!), a digital game of Easter Bingo, and 'Spot the Eggs' - and John explained to the Brownies why there were 11 eggs to spot and not 12.



The Brownies have also received online activities about a Toy Puppy Training Class activity to do at home, making a rock collection, and working towards an Earth Day challenge badge. They are now receiving weekly chapters of Alice in Wonderland - which is to be the theme for our next Brownie

Pack Holiday at some time in the future.

Everyone enjoyed an online Girlguiding 'Spring Social' on Easter Monday with demonstrations of crafts, photography, cookery, science challenges, route-making, yoga, storytelling, an Army presentation about feeling positive, and a camp fire singalong.



We look forward to getting back to our regular meetings when it is safe to do so. If you know of any young girls aged between 5-10 who might like to join Rainbows or Brownies, or even just to receive the free Brownies weekly activity emails, please ask their families to get in touch.

dalmillingbrownies@hotmail.com



Barn Owl Sonya's Easter True or False Quiz

Although Easter has passed now, you might like to have a go at Barn Owl Sonya's Easter True or False Quiz;

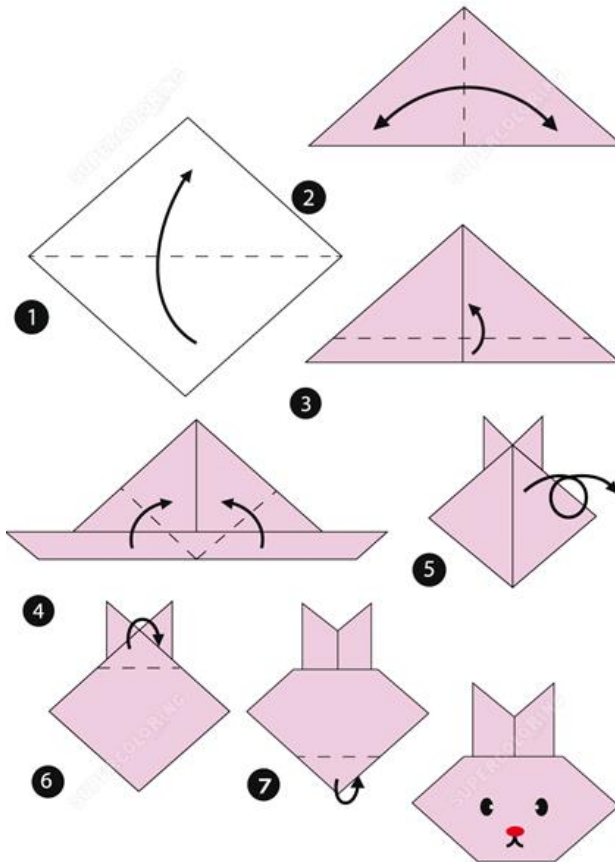
1. Easter eggs are commonly eaten at Easter because an egg represents new life. True or false?
2. Maundy Thursday is NOT a day of Holy Week. True or false?
3. The first day of Holy Week celebrates Jesus's arrival in Jerusalem riding on a donkey. True or false?
4. The name of the meal Jesus shared with his disciples is called The Big Breakfast. True or false?
5. A lamb is a symbol of Easter, as it was an animal of sacrifice in the Bible, and Jesus sacrificed his life on the cross to save us from our sins. True or false?

ANSWERS

1. True
2. False - Maundy Thursday is the day before Good Friday, when Jesus was crucified.
3. True.
4. False - it was called The Last Supper.
5. True.

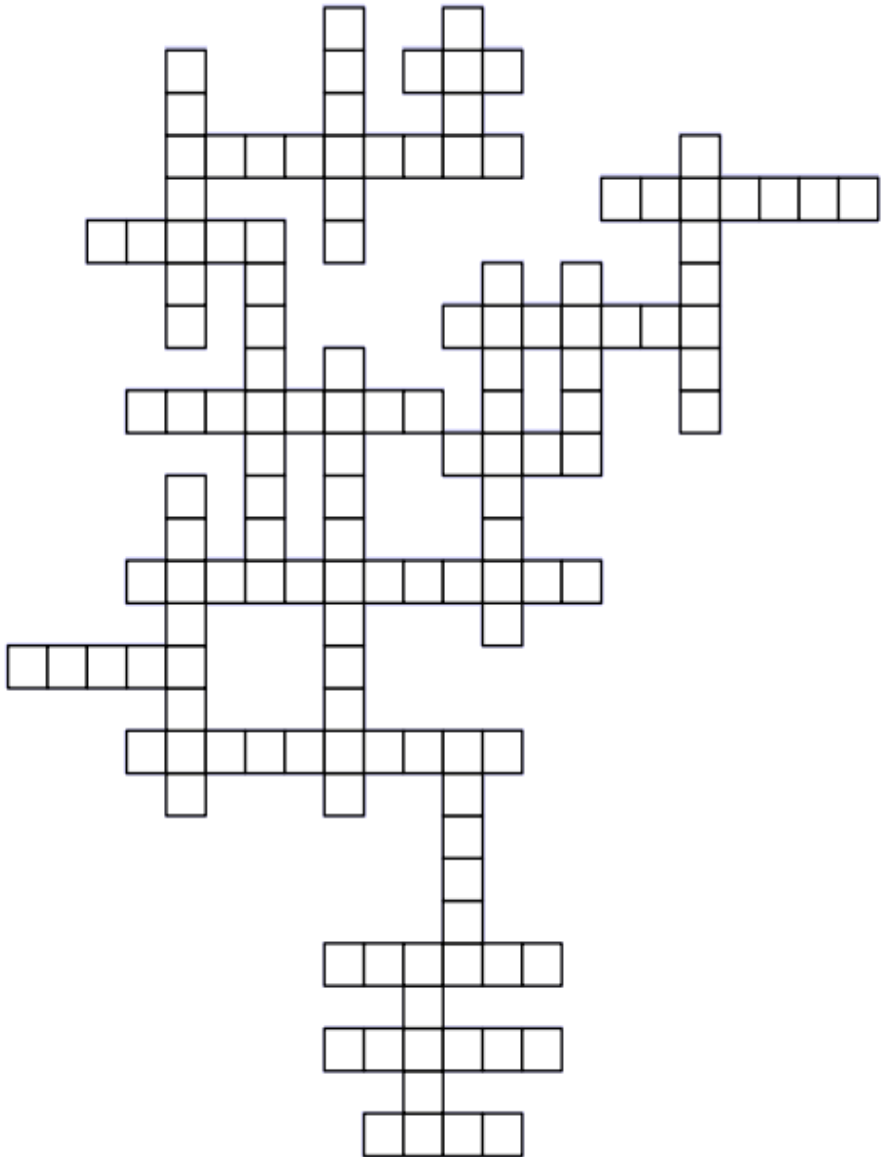


The Brownies made an origami Easter bunny at their virtual Easter Zoom party. Even John and Elizabeth had a go!





Turn page on its side to complete.





3 Letters	KELSO	BRISTOL	PITLOCHRY
AYR	PERTH	CARDIFF	
4 Letters	6 Letters	KESWICK	10 Letters
BATH	DUBLIN	8 Letters	LOCHLOMOND
SKYE	DUNDEE	CORNWALL	11 Letters
YORK	DURHAM	DUNBLANE	FORTWILLIAM
5 Letters	JERSEY	9 Letters	12 Letters
ARRAN	7 Letters	EDINBURGH	LAKEDISTRICT
DEVON	BELFAST	INVERNESS	



General Assembly 2021

The Church of Scotland General Assembly for 2021 will be held online for a second year. It will open on Saturday 22 May and once again will be facilitated via Zoom and the "Assembly Hub".

This year, 756 participants are expected to join together remotely from across Scotland and around the world for the GA. This includes 671 Commissioners, along with Overseas and Ecumenical Delegates, Corresponding Members, and Youth Reps.

On Saturday 22 May, there will be an opening session at 10am, including the installation of the Moderator, and an afternoon session at 1pm. To limit screen time, business sessions Monday to Thursday will be across two afternoon sessions 1pm and 4pm, with anticipated latest end times of 3.30pm and 6pm respectively. The Assembly will close on the Thursday afternoon.

The proceedings will be live streamed and available for everyone to watch on the Church of Scotland website.

Lord High Commissioner

The Lord High Commissioner is the Sovereign's personal representative to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. The Lord High Commissioner's role is to maintain the relationship between the State and the Church. The appointee attends the General Assembly as an observer, makes an address, and reports to Her Majesty on its proceedings. The tradition of appointing a Lord High Commissioner began in the late 16th century.

Her Majesty The Queen has appointed Prince William, The Duke of Cambridge and Earl of Strathearn, as the Lord High Commissioner to the 2021 General Assembly. His Royal Highness was supposed to serve in the role at the 2020 General Assembly, but this was cancelled due to COVID-19.



CONTACTS

23

Minister	Rev John McCutcheon	01292 861641
Church Office	Dalmilling Church	262177
Session Clerk	David McMahan	315529
Treasurer	Colin Mutch	263678
Roll Keeper & Elders Dis- tricts	Vickie Mutch	263678
Family/ Community Worker	Paul Algeo	262177
Data Protection Officer	To be elected.	
Health and Safety Officer	Allan Leydon	262293
Safeguarding Team	A Leydon, R Alexander, Rev John McCutcheon	
Audio/Visual Programmer		
Order of Service & Intimations Secretary	Vickie Mutch	263678
Organists	Jennifer McCutcheon Anne Houston	261248 521763
Auchincruive Church Officer	Katharine Black	478242
Dalm. Sunday Church Officer	Allan Leydon	262293
Dalm. Premises co- ordinator	Allan Leydon	262293
Auchincruive Communion	Katharine & John Black.	478242
Dalmilling Communion	Allan Leydon Elizabeth Brechany	262293 268363
Flowers Auchincruive	Rosemary Alexander	
Flowers Dalmilling	Pat Smith	
Hall Bookings Secretary	Elizabeth Brechany	07925 574925
Magazine Editor	Elizabeth Brechany	268363

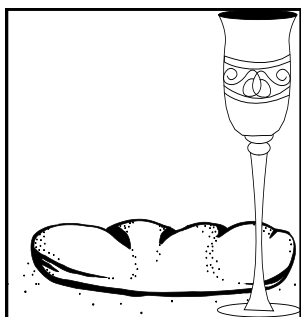


We Invite You

To join us for COMMUNION

SUNDAY 6th JUNE 2021

At Auchincruive Church



Do this in remembrance of me.

Luke 22:19

Next issue of Church Magazine

All items should be submitted to Elizabeth Brechany

by Sunday 8th August 2021

St Quivox Parish Church: Ayr (Church of Scotland) (known as Ayr:St Quivox Parish Church) is a Scottish Charity, SC004906, regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)