

BISHOPTON PARISH CHURCH

(CHURCH OF SCOTLAND)
SCOTTISH CHARITY NO SC006109



Network Magazine

August 2025

Sunday Kidz

On Sunday morning, June 15th, the **Sunday Kidz** and **Creche** children joined the church service to celebrate a year of commitment.

After a report, summarising the SK activities of the past session, all the children received a book in recognition of their enthusiastic contributions to the wide variety of experiences that were on offer.



If you missed the service, you may find out more from the recording available via Youtube.

A highlight at our celebration was the first outing of the new pulpit fall, featuring one of the bird species observed during the SK nature walk with Tony Baker. Thanks go to Alison Russell for her assistance with this project. We look forward to seeing this fall displayed, together with previous craft projects, in future services.

I would like to say thanks to the children and their parents for their ongoing support. SK will resume in mid-September, and new members will be most welcome. If you know of any children of primary school age / younger who would be interested in joining us, then please do get in touch.
(linda.nicholl@bishoptonkirk.org.uk)

Linda Nicholl
SK Co-ordinator
August 2025

Contact Information

The Church office
The Cornerstone
Greenock Road
Bishopton
PA75JW
Phone; 01505 862583
Email:
office@bishoptonkirk.org.uk

Anyone wishing to contact the Minister should contact Yvonne on 01505 862161
Anyone wishing to contact the session Clerk, Douglas Hope or the Clerk to The Board, Des Nicholl should do so through The Cornerstone Office.

In This Issue

- Sunday Kidz
- Pastoral Letter
- Finance Report
- Chit chat
- Social Committee
- Girls' Brigade
- Music Activities
- Intimations
- Worship calendar

Pastoral Letter



Dear Friends

I trust that you have all enjoyed a good Summer and made the most of the mixed but relatively dry summer weather. I had a good break in July and spent a week in Northumberland and enjoyed some walking in this lovely part of our Country.

One of the highlights was walking across the causeway to visit the Holy Isle of Lindisfarne and walking barefoot across the sand. We had to plan the walk carefully to coincide with the low tide, and we followed the tall wooden way markers which were covered in seaweed and barnacles, reminding us that this sandy plain on which we were walking was twice a day covered by sea water.

It was quite an adventure as we walked the same route that people have made over centuries as they journeyed to this very special place of pilgrimage and influence in the introduction of Christianity into the British Isles by the Monks who set up a community on Lindisfarne in the 7th century. It was from there that many of them set out as missionaries to visit villages and towns and proclaim the Gospel. Over 1300 years later people still visit this site and marvel at the work of these early Christian Monks and how influential they were in spreading the Christian Faith.



While walking over the sand we were very conscious that not only were there way markers for us to follow and keep us on the right track but there were several high wooden towers that provided a safe platform should a walker be caught out by the rising tide.



us

This made me think on the passage of Scripture in Matthew 14:22- 32, where Jesus had stayed back to pray while the disciples made their way by boat to the other side of the lake. The disciples encountered a storm and their little boat was being tossed about in the waves. Then they saw Jesus walking on the water as he made his way to them, they were all very anxious and full of fear and Jesus told them not to be afraid, Peter spoke up and said, “Lord if it really you call me to come out on the water to you.”.

Come! Jesus replied and so Peter got out of the boat and started walking on the water to Jesus but then he became aware of the wind, and the storm and fear overwhelmed him, and Peter started to sink down into the water.

In desperation he cried out “Save me Lord” and Jesus caught hold of him and gently helped him into the boat and as he did, he quietly said to him “How little faith you have! Why did you doubt?”

In life we will all encounter storms or winds that will blow us off course and cause us anxiety. We need to trust in our Lord for strength and courage and not allow our fears to cause us to doubt in his power, and to remember he is always with us. He is ready to help us back into the boat when we start to sink. Psalm 144 verse 2 reminds us “He is my protector and defender, my shelter and saviour, in whom I trust for safety.

As we enter a new season of activities as the Church begins our Autumn programme, I hope that you will join in many of the various activities and events that this edition of Network will highlight to you. There is something for everyone – from Creche to Chitchat – in person worship and online services. Like the Monks on Lindisfarne, I pray that as a church family we will have an impact on others within our Parish and beyond as we witness and share our faith.

*Lord, You have come to the seashore,
neither searching for the rich nor the wise,
desiring only that I should follow.
O lord, with your eyes set upon me,
Gently smiling you have spoken my name.
All I have longed for I have found by the water,
At your side I will seek other shores.*

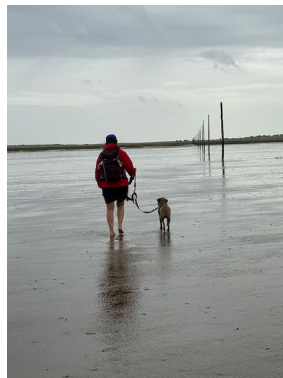
CH4 532 - Cesareo Gabarain

Enjoy the rest of the summer and please join with us weekly on a Sunday morning either in person at the church or online which can be accessed via the website which takes you to the You Tube Site on a tablet /computer/ or smart TV.

I look forward to sharing and worshipping with you.

God Bless

Yvonne



Finance

We are now past the halfway stage in the church's financial year and I'm pleased to be able to report that we remain on budget for a surplus at the end of the year. However, we anticipate that this will be less than was achieved in 2024 due to higher utility costs and a reduction in one-off donations. Income from standing orders, WFO envelopes, and cash donations during the service remain strong. Thank you for your continued generosity.

As I write this, we are preparing information for submission to HMRC who have advised that we have been selected for an audit of one of our 2024 Gift Aid submissions. We believe our Gift Aid records are robust and hope that the audit shows this to be the case.

However, it seems an appropriate time to remind those who donate with Gift Aid that there is no end date on the Gift Aid declaration that you have signed and we will continue to claim on your donations unless you tell us otherwise. This might be because you no longer pay income tax, or the tax you pay is less than we claim from HMRC i.e. 25% of your donation. In addition, we use the latest postcode and house number we have from you on each of our Gift Aid submissions so please let us know if you have moved. A number of the declarations that we have on file date back over 25 years. Please don't hesitate to speak to me at church or contact me at the email address or phone number below if you are unsure if we have your correct details.

Finally, if you do not currently donate with Gift Aid and would like to do so, please contact me and I will let you have a declaration for signing.

Alex Macdonald

alex.mcdonald@bishoptonkirk.org.uk

0141 588 2185

Convenor, Finance Committee

CHIT CHAT

1pm to 2.30pm in The Cornerstone

Chit Chat continued to meet on a Thursday throughout the summer. We were fortunate to welcome around 50 attendees every week when new and returning friends shared in fellowship.

Our summer programme commenced with a Strawberry tea accompanied by music from John Campbell. Other dates included wonderful and varied musical programmes from Stewart Munro and friends. A completely different musical afternoon was provided by a trio of boys - "Sounds Ok". We were delighted to provide them with an appreciative audience as they start on their musical career. At the start of August we welcomed children from Dargaval Early Learning Centre and had fun at our Teddy Bears picnic.

Future meetings include a variety of musical afternoons, speakers from Paisley Street Pastors, The Olive Tree, a talk on a young athlete's journey in athletics, and the Waverley.

Reverend Yvonne Smith conducts an informal worship service on the last Thursday of every month, which also gives time for chatter on a selected topic.

A full programme can be found on the Church website and as always, all are welcome to any meeting which they wish to attend.

Gill McHattie

Social Committee

A very successful quiz evening was held on 28th June in The Cornerstone when 13 tables of keen quizzers enjoyed a real fun evening. A special thank you to Stewart Campbell for devising the questions and to Aileen Mungin for developing and taking control of the electronic score board. Congratulations also to the winners of the Trophy - Snow Chance. (see photo)



Our next event is the Family BBQ on **Saturday 23rd August** from 2pm to 4pm in The Cornerstone car park and downstairs hall. There will be games and activities for the children, and rolls with burgers/ sausages and juices will be available. All for a cost of £5. This is a great opportunity for the community to get together and have fun

More Future Events

Sunday 21st September - The Glasgow Phoenix Choir will be present a musical programme at 2.30pm in the church. Tickets priced £10 are available from the church on Sundays, from The Cornerstone office and from Social Committee members.

Friday 24th October at 8pm in The Cornerstone - A musical cheese and wine evening when the Bearsden Fiddlers will provide the entertainment. Cheese and crackers will be provided, BYOB. Tickets priced £5 will be available from October.

Saturday 29th November - The Christmas Fair will be held on in The Cornerstone.



Girls' Brigade

GIRLS' BRIGADE THE PLACE TO BEE



Looking for fun, friendship, and new challenges?

The Girls' Brigade is the perfect place for girls to grow in confidence and learn new skills.

The
Cornerstone

Juniors -
7pm
P4-7



Explorers-
6.30pm
P1-3

Brigaders -
7.45pm
S1-6

Thursdays
starting
28th Aug

Email us at bishoptongb@gmail.com
for more details or to register for a
place.



Music Activities

Concert

Many thanks to everyone who supported the July concert in the church given by Gordon Cree and Cheryl Forbes. They gave an excellent programme in a variety of musical styles, and this was greatly appreciated by a large audience.

Church Choir

The choir has resumed rehearsals on Thursday nights at The Cornerstone. New members are always welcome – just speak to any choir member about joining us.

We will be taking part in the next Church Concert in August.

Junior Singers

The Junior Singers will restart on Monday 25th August from 3.45 until 4.45pm at The Cornerstone. We will have a varied programme of Scottish, musicals, choruses and Disney songs. The group is open to children of Primary School age, and there is no charge. We meet during the school term, and we would be delighted to welcome any new members.

Praise Band

The Praise Band continues to play at the services at The Cornerstone. We will be playing at the August concert in the church, and new members are always welcome.

Church Concert

There will be a concert in the church on Sunday 24th August from 2.30 until 3.30pm. There will be items from the church choir, Praise Band and some solo pieces. There will be music from Joseph, My Fair Lady, Toy Story, as well as Scottish tunes, and some classical music too. There are no tickets for this event, but there will be the chance to donate to the Chisangano Appeal, and during the concert the One World Committee will give us an update on the work in Chisangano.

Please come along and support what is always an enjoyable occasion.

Intimations

Funerals – Jusus said ‘I am the Resurrection and the life’ (Mat 19:14)

Mrs. Greta Hill - 11th July, Bishopton Parish Church & Cemetery (member)

Mr. Alexander Currie – 14th August, Craigton Crematorium (member & retired elder)

Baptism – ‘Let the little children come unto me’

Mrs. Julie Connolly – Baptised and admitted into church membership 8th June

Ross Thomas and Blair Graeme, Baptised with their mum.

Dad Graeme added to the Roll, and we welcomed the Connolly Family into the Church Family on that date.



Worship Calendar



Our Sunday morning Services are usually held in the **Church**, starting at **11am**, **except** for the **first Sunday in the month** unless otherwise intimated via Newsy Mail, Church Website or Facebook.

17th August - Public Worship

24th August - Public Worship

31st August - Public Worship - Holy Communion

7th September - Family All Age Worship - 11 am @ The Cornerstone

14th September - Public Worship

21st September - Public Worship

28th September - Public Worship

5th October - Family All Age Worship - 11 am @ The Cornerstone

12th October – Harvest Thanksgiving Service (Donations to Renfrewshire Food Bank)

19th October – BB Enrollment Service (TBC)

26th October - Public Worship – Holy Communion

2nd November - Family All Age Worship - 11 am @ The Cornerstone

A weekly Creche is available in the extension hall for pre-school children to access at any time during the service and there is a screen with live streaming of the service available for adults accompanying their children.

The Sunday Kidz usually meet in the church at 11am and after the 'Small Talk' & children's hymn, go out to the extension hall for their age-related Bible activities and crafts.

During the Summer Session there is no Sunday Kidz programme, but children are encouraged to come along to church and either sit with family or go out to the hall and for Ice Lolly Club – Sunday Kidz will restart in September.

Tea and coffee are served in the extension hall after morning worship – all are welcome to join in this time of fellowship.

On the **first Sunday of each month**, we have a **Family - All Age Service** in **The Cornerstone** commencing 11am and this is a more informal gathering and worship and hope to encourage those in our Youth Organisations and families involved in activities @ The Cornerstone to come along and share with us.

Tea and Coffee is available after this service and served downstairs in the open area.

We will have members of our Praise Band as well as Stewart our Organist and Choir to accompany our singing. Please come along and encourage family and friends to attend.



Beaton Bros



24 Hour 7 day service

Please call 0141 812 4422

<https://beatonbros.co.uk>



YOUR FUNERAL DIRECTORS -

At your time of need our caring and professional staff are here to listen and advise you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Funeral Pre payment plans and monumental masonry available.

For immediate personal attention, please contact:

J & W Goudie

10 -12 Maxwellton Street, Paisley

0141 889 5285

Walter Johnston & Son

14 Fulbar Street, Renfrew

0141 886 4256