



PILRIG St PAUL'S CHURCH JUNE 2024

PILRIG St PAUL'S MAGAZINE

We welcome articles and thank-you letters from members and friends. Articles are published in both the printed magazine and on-line, unless otherwise arranged with the editor (eg, where personal information is concerned, either names and other details are omitted or specific permission to use details has been received). All contributors must provide their name, please, which is normally attached to the article. We reserve the right to edit articles. Changes other than spelling or grammar will, where possible, be discussed with the contributor. The views expressed are those of individual contributors and not necessarily those of Pilrig St. Paul's Church or the Church of Scotland.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Church website: <http://www.pilrigstpauls.org.uk>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pilrigstpauls/>

If you wish to follow the readings that we use in church each Sunday you can access them at <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>

For information regarding Girl Guiding and Scouts:

www.girlguiding.org.uk

hello@scouts.scot Sign up to our mailing list here:

<https://mailchi.mp/f8740e88c94b/pilrig>

This is a reduced version of the magazine for general publication. Members and adherents who would like a full prayer, pastoral and bereavement or thank you list, or a financial update should contact magazine Editor. For more information about our groups and organisations, find contact details at the back of the magazine. Although no longer a requirement, hand sanitizer and 1 metre spaced seating are available. You are welcome to wear a mask while with us.

PILRIG ST PAUL'S CHURCH JUNE 2024

On week 1 of the month we meet jointly with Leith St Andrew's and St Margaret's Restalrig in turn. From week 2 of every month, Sunday services take place in each church. At Pilrig St Paul's, doors open 10.35am with services also on Facebook, to watch live or later.

ALL WELCOME TO EVERY SERVICE

Sunday 2nd June 10.30am (please note time)

Joint Service at St Margaret's Realrig

Thursday 6th June 7.30pm Session meeting, Open Doorway

Sunday 9th June 11am Leith Churches Together Ecumenical Service at Pilrig St Paul's see page 9

Thursday 13th June 10.30-12noon Open Doorway

Sunday 16th June Service in the Sanctuary

Sunday 23rd June Service in the Sanctuary

Thursday 27th June 10.30-12noon Open Doorway

Sunday 30th June - Communion Service in the Sanctuary

See page 9



Copies of the current CrossReach news can be found in the open doorway.



Our foodbank at Pilrig St Paul's continues to be open for clients. Please bring donations of non-perishable items and put them in the basket in the church vestibule. If you can help with deliveries, please see page 10.

From our Minister:

“When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place... All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.” – Acts 2:1,4

Dear All,

I was never very good at learning other languages at school and quickly dropped those subjects in favour of the Sciences. I subsequently tried to learn some German and some Spanish during my adult life, but struggled to get beyond the basics to a point where I would be able to converse with other people.

In the book of Acts, Luke describes the moment when Jesus’ disciples suddenly received the ability to speak in numerous different languages. The disciples were in the middle of an international crowd, with many different languages, when the Holy Spirit enabled them to communicate with everyone.

I wish it could be that easy! I’m all for learning other languages, but this story isn’t about us taking lessons in Finnish or immersing ourselves in Gaelic. Instead, I believe this passage is about learning to speak in ways that are relevant to the people around us.

Our ways of communicating with others are changing every day – and yet as a Church we still tend to think that the Sunday morning service is the only way that we can communicate our faith to others. There’s a whole generation who use social media platforms to communicate with their families and friends. Tweets, TikToks, and texts have become the language of most people under the age of 40. Many companies and organisations have realised this and are using

social media platforms to advertise their products and promote their views.

As a Church we have a strong message to proclaim. One of the ways we do so is by providing a wide range of support services for the people of Scotland and beyond. But we are not good at telling people what we do and why we do it. Are we going to wait for the people around us to walk through our doors to learn the language of church? Or are we going to learn to speak a new language and share our story with others? Perhaps this could be our Pentecost moment?

Blessings
Mark



THANK YOU

We have received thanks from many members for prayers, flowers, cards, visits, phone calls, texts and support received following illness, celebrations, bereavements and accidents.

Prayer Corner

Please remember in your prayers members and friends of the congregation who are ill or infirm at this time. A full list is available in the printed version of the magazine.

Please let the minister or me know of someone to include in this section.

Catrina Blackwood

Minutes of the Stated Annual Meeting of Pilrig St. Paul's Church of Scotland.

The Stated Annual Meeting of the congregation took place within worship at Pilrig St. Paul's Church at 11 am on Sunday 19th May 2024.

The Minutes of the previous Stated Annual Meeting of the Congregation were printed in the church magazine and taken as read.

The Congregational Treasurer presented the 2023 financial accounts of the congregation and raised the following points.

The total income for 2023 was £102,854. This is an increase of £25,100. The majority of the increase, £22,391 came from an unexpected legacy. We received a legacy several years ago and a policy had been missed from the estate so we got our share of this.

Total Expenditure for 2022 was £92,611 an increase of £16,953.

We had a surplus of £10,243 last year. This is good but we have to remember without the legacy of £22,391 we would have had a deficit of £12,148.

The largest amount of income came from hall lets (38%). This does include the payment we get from Vodafone for the rental of the room they have their equipment in. Offerings (29%) were the second largest income source for 2023. Almost a third of the offerings received came from one member and I want to thank them for their continued support. The tax recovered makes up 6% of the income so if anyone does pay tax and isn't signed up for gift aid please speak to me as it makes a big difference to the income we get.

Weddings and funerals provided 1% of our income but unfortunately it all came from funerals. The remaining 26% is in Others. This is higher than normal as it includes the legacy.

The largest expense (31%) was our Giving to Grow contribution. (This replaced Ministry & Mission). The second largest was fabric at 22%. Last year we needed to carry out large repairs to the church roof and also had to have work completed on the manse roof. Salaries account for 14% of the expenditure, this includes the cost of the cleaning company we are using. 9% goes to Insurance and 8% to heating and lighting. The remaining 16% is Other running expenses we have including Presbytery Assessment, maintenance of the organ and telephone / broadband.

Rev Mark Foster thanked Mark Wexelstein for the financial record keeping of the congregation. He also advised to congregation this would be the last time the information would be presented to the congregation as when the Union takes place the accounts will be amalgamated. He commented that it was good to see we had managed to have a surplus over the last three years as he remembered when he became minister we had been in deficit for 18 years.

The following members were re-elected to serve for a further period of office on the Congregational Board.
Evelyn Torrance and Nancy Fleming, proposed by Mark Wexelstein and seconded by John Innes

Rev Mark Foster thanked everyone who had helped and served the congregation in 2023 but there were too many to name them individually.



PASTORAL CARE and MAGAZINE

Hello,

Thank you for all the contributions this month, including to those who put articles in the box outside the Session room – I do check it! There is no magazine in July and August, but I look forward to plenty of content in September. May I have these by 18th August, please?

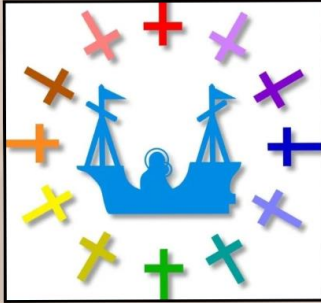
Just before our summer break is a good time to thank those who make the magazine possible – the minister for his letters and other articles, and for helping out if I am unsure about something, to John Innes for printing it and my husband Bill for proof reading it. Thanks to those who have sent articles and fliers for me to include. Without all this there would be no magazine!

For those members and adherents who read the magazine online, I am happy to supply a full prayer and thank you list or extra contact details. This is not made available on line for reasons of confidentiality.

I hope everyone manages some time outside, even if you are not able to get away.

Catriona Blackwood
Pastoral Committee member and Magazine Editor

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LEITH
CHURCHES
TOGETHER

COME JOIN US

ECUMENICAL
FESTIVAL SERVICE

PILRIG ST PAUL'S
EH6 5AH

SUNDAY 9TH JUNE

AT 11AM

**The Minister and Kirk Session of
Pilrig St Paul's Church
invite you**

to

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

on

Sunday 30th June 2024 at 11 am

**This is the Lord's Table. Anyone who loves God and
responds to Christ's invitation to join together in this
feast is welcome to join us in the celebration.**

**As well as wine, there are cups of plain water on the
serving trays, please take whichever you prefer.**



Edinburgh Northeast Foodbank needs drivers and driver's mate/assistant

Are you looking for a new challenge?

Are you able to spare a few hours each week?

**Are you enthusiastic and able to build good relationships
and**

**Are you someone like us who believes good food should be
accessible to all and food poverty is an injustice?**

**Edinburgh NE Foodbank works with local supermarkets
and businesses who are willing to donate food to our Leith
warehouse, foodbank centres and Pantry. In supporting
the operation of the Foodbank, they also help to reduce
food waste in our City.**

**Pickups and distributions usually happen each Tuesday
and Friday morning, however, don't let this stop you
applying we may need you other times!**

**There is a level of fitness required to help move load and
unload crates of food donations in loaded crates**

If you cannot drive we can still use your strength.

**If you are able and willing to drive a transit van, you will need
to hold a full driving licence.**

Sounds like you?

**Please contact alison@edinburghne.foodbank.org.uk or
call 07723 325 311 for more information**

GIVING TO PILRIG ST PAUL'S

Please consider making a donation by visiting our website www.pilrigstpauls.org.uk and donate using the PayPal button. You can also use the QR code below by scanning it on your mobile phone. We have set up a JustGiving page, the url is <https://www.justgiving.com/edinburghpilrigstpaulsparishchurch> We do have to pay a handling fee for any donations received through PayPal or JustGiving so don't receive the full amount donated. Thank you for your continued support.

Mark Wexelstein

Email treasurer@pilrigstpauls.org.uk Phone 0131 665 6881



CONTACT DETAILS

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www.pilrigstpauls.org.uk

HALL LETS –contact psp.halluse@gmail.com to make a booking.

Scottish Charity no. SCO07277

www.leithchurchesforum.org.uk