

# the weekly bulletin

## Recording Lockdown

We have invited folk to record the experience of lockdown in a number of ways, from photos and logos to poems and rainbows.

nkchurch.org.uk  
@NKChurch  
FaceBook

Friday 17th July



New Kilpatrick Parish Church  
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Faith

We'd like to invite you to continue to do that, but this time using the daily prayers that are posted on the website each morning. Each has tried to express the mood of the community throughout this period, and we are hoping to gather a number of them together to create a booklet of prayers reflecting this time and offer it to everyone as an aid to their own devotions.

We are inviting anyone who might be interested to take some time to read through the prayers and choose those that have helped and supported them. You can choose as many as you wish and, if you would like to say why a particular prayer has helped or continues to do so, then please let us know. We will take as many as we can and publish them for our own use in the congregation and, perhaps, further afield.

If you would like to help with this project, please simply go onto the website, visit the [daily prayer page](#), and select the ones that speak to you, [sending them to us](#) with any thoughts or stories or experiences you have. You can do this anonymously.

We'll ask your permission to publish your reflections when we get around to that.

In addition, if you would like to write a prayer for the website (again anonymously if you wish), then please do so and we will post it. It doesn't have to be long, deep or meaningful, but to express some hope, concern, longing, joy that you have. Send it to the [church email address](#).



# This is Who we Are

Hello. We're a congregation whose historical roots go back centuries so you may be imagining what we're like. We understand that. In fact, when you visit you may get the idea that we're trying to be the kind of people you imagine us to be. In truth we're not.

You'll actually recognise many of us because we're just like most people in this area. However, we find life in the relationships we have with each other here. When we meet, online or in person, we are encouraged (mostly), helped (often), welcomed (but not overly enthusiastically), but we know, sadly, that doesn't always happen to our visitors.



We're folk who are married, single, divorced, partnered, widowed. We're all at different points along the spectrum of sexuality. We're made up of single-parent families, stepfamilies, nuclear families, and probably any number of other ways to describe the complex relationships we have in our lives.

To be honest, we've made a mess of life at times, and we've succeeded at others. We have gained things in life and lost them too. Here we feel we can bring our joys and our woes. Sometimes they are on display and at other times, we hold them tight.

Some of us read the Bible daily and some of us don't. Some of us find prayer difficult and for others it comes as second nature.

We who find it difficult trust those who find it easy. That's how we support each other.

Some voices are louder and some quieter. Some of us make the rules and others break them. Some of us are outward facing, others inward. Some have a strong, certain faith and others feel lost in honest doubt.



# Hello

While we can't meet *in* church,  
we do meet *as* church:  
this is our new home: we are open and busy  
Hello!



We all recognise that faith is not a set of things to believe, but a journey to take, and the experience changes who we are towards our neighbours. And, just so you know, we're all at different stages and going at different speeds on our faith journeys, so there is room for everyone.

Sometimes we want to be seen as a successful church, busy and engaged, but we know more of a hunger for something deeper inside us.

We've fallen out and in with each other. We do our best to make a just community, but we know we are tangled up in culture, and image, and even fear. We wrestle with that and are continually needing love to humble us and to encourage us to see ourselves and our neighbours in equal light.

Together, this is the reality of who we are. We aren't as you might expect. Or maybe we are. Maybe it is us who need to hear all this again.

# Zoomday School Family Day

We've got another family day on Zoom this **Sunday at 4pm-5pm.**

It's like a Sunday School picnic online without the buses and songs and streamers but, hey, maybe we can do all that without moving from our sofas. Come along, if you are in Zoomday School, and find out.

In fact, we hope to have a real **Zoomday School Picnic** for the whole congregation in August. We'll have online races: egg and spoon, sack races...; we'll have games and a picnic. So watch this space for the unique, never been done before (and, possibly, never again), all online, Zoomday School picnic for everyone in the congregation.







## Twiddle Muffs

Twiddle Muffs are going well with the first few coming in. Please do think about knitting some, if you can, and be as creative and imaginative as you wish. These will go to Queen Elizabeth Hospital and some care homes too.

They are muffs that give the hands of agitated folk something to do, offering a bit of calm. More can be found about twiddle muffs by going to the NHS information page.

## Postcards from beyond

Maybe that title is a bit dramatic. We're not asking you to go that far. But anywhere you find yourself over the summer, do send us a postcard. They are coming in now and you'll hear some read out on in the video service online. The service is recorded on Wednesday morning so they have to arrive before then to get included, but any after that will be read out the following week.

We hope you enjoy a day out, or even a few days away, but please don't go beyond Scottish Government rules!

## Songs of Praise

Our next Songs of Praise is at 7.30 on **Sunday 26th July** on Zoom. The link will be on the website next week. Just come along. We always have a number of guests from other congregations too, so feel free to meet and greet and invite others for a sing.



# Sofa Surfers

We have a return talk this week when Alistair Burrow takes us back to the Stans of Asia for part two. We only got so far last time, but this week we manage to make it home again. That's 7pm, Thursday 23rd, for part two of our tour of those fascinating and little visited countries whose cultures and traditions go back millennia, and whose scenery is inspiring. Don't miss your return flight at 7pm.



## The Diary

**Podcast & Video services:** from the [church website home page](#) worship banner, from midnight Saturday.

**Phone Service:** dial 0141 465 5774 (after a bit of a pause).

**Zoomday School:** 10am: Beginners; 10.30: Sunday Clan; 11.15 JFV2. The last before the summer relaunch.

**Zoomday Family Day:** 4pm. Logon from the Zoom Page.

**SingSong!** at 2pm on Tuesday 21st, joining in with all who enjoy a good sing. Especially designed for those who have some degree of memory loss or dementia. From our [Zoom page](#).

**Quiz Night** at 7pm on Tuesday 21st from our [Zoom page](#).

**Sofa Surfers** at 7pm on Thursday 23rd. This week, a return trip to all the Stans of Asia with Alistair Burrow. Via our [Zoom page](#).

**Weekly Bulletin** to be read over breakfast on Friday 24th

**Coffee Pot** at 10.30am on Friday 24th, where we catch up with each other and continually say hello to new folk popping in. *THE* social place, beginning in the virtual lounge on our [Zoom page](#).

**Songs of Praise** (the next one will be Sunday 26th)

Plus, the website for daily prayers, new psalms, appeals, photos and poems, news, and everything else.

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