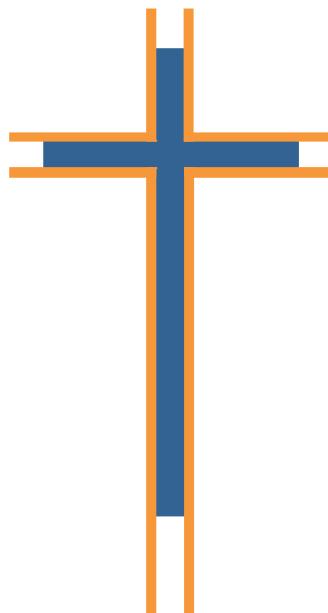


CASTLEHILL PARISH CHURCH



The Herald
Autumn Edition 2008

Church Office Bearers

Minister

Rev. Elizabeth A. Crumlish
Email LizCrumlish@aol.com

Secretary

Sandra Wyllie
Office Tel. 267332
E-mail ~ office@castlehillchurch.org

Session Clerk

Mr. Douglas Owens
Tel. 442062

Property Convenor

Mr. David Lynch
Tel. 289280

Treasurer

Mr. Douglas Wilson
Tel. 285230

Freewill Offering Convener

Mrs. Sandra Goldie 570054

Church Beadle

Mrs. Linda Telfer
Tel. 288613

Asst. Beadle

Mr. Andrew Graham
Tel. 261486

Roll Keeper

Mrs. Margaret Owens
Tel. 442062

Flowers

Mrs. Trudy McLeod
Tel. 443213

Contact Companions

Mrs. Trudy McLeod 443213, Mrs. Margaret Cairns 265217

Organist

Contact Office

Church Website ~ www.castlehillchurch.org

Charity Regulation Number SC001792

From the manse

Well, the induction has come and gone - and what a night it was. So many talents put to good use, from baking, to singing, to washing up, to sweeping the floor. It all came together so wonderfully. Words are so inadequate to express the gratitude we felt. Idris, Ruaridh, Zara and I returned to the manse tired but feeling specially loved and welcomed. We have enjoyed the move and the scorching weather that greeted us on our arrival in Ayr allowed us to take frequent breaks in the beautiful garden to escape from unpacking boxes for a while. We've managed to find most of the things that we need and, although one room is still full of boxes, we are feeling really quite organised just 10 days after the big flit.

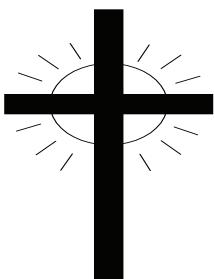
Now its time to return to "auld claes and porridge". Its time to get on with that challenge that awaits us - to step out in faith together into whatever God has planned for the next stage of Castlehill's journey.

I am excited about that and I hope that you are too.

Paul Russell, moderator of Ayr Presbytery said some very special things about us making miracles happen together. I fully believe that there are miracles ahead and, as Paul reminded us, miracles are about recognising and harnessing the power of God. It seems to me that Castlehill is very ready for that. We stand on holy ground and are called to step out in faith in the knowledge that there is an abundance awaiting us. Many people have laid solid foundations in Castlehill and I feel very humble to be called to follow in their footsteps and even to forge new paths because our God is a God of abundant blessings. I know you have waited with hope and anticipation to call a new minister. Let's not lose the momentum of this special time. In the words of that old Scots tramping song:

"Come along, come along, let us foot it out together".

Blessings,
Liz Crumlish



~ Forthcoming Services ~

Sunday 7th September ~ 11a.m & 6.30 p.m.

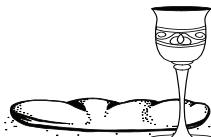
Sacrament of Holy Communion

Sunday 5th October ~ 11a.m ~ Harvest service

Sunday 9th November ~ 10.45a.m

Service of Remembrance

Could anyone wishing
Home Communion please
contact their Elder or the office.



Interim Moderator

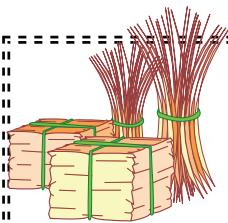
I know that many of you have enjoyed the ministry of your interim moderator and locum, Rev Bill Hannah. Appreciation was expressed at the induction social and presentations were made to Bill and his wife Morag. I should just like to add my gratitude too. At every stage of the vacancy procedure Bill has provided good advice, has kept the relevant paper work in order and has displayed great patience and encouragement as I struggled to discern the Holy Spirit's prompting. His humility and humour, as well as his understanding of the trauma of leaving people I had grown to love in Inverkip made the whole process that much easier.

And I know that I can count on him for support and advice when required in the months ahead. He will certainly be a hard act to follow!

Liz Crumlish



If you know of anyone who would like a tape of our Sunday services. Please contact the office.



Blythswood Shoebox Appeal 2008

*We are again supporting the "Shoebox Appeal"
There is a leaflet with your magazine explaining what you
can and cannot put in the boxes.*

*Thank you in anticipation of everybody's usual generosity in
supporting this appeal.*

*Boxes may be handed into the Church on a Sunday or into
the Church Office during the week.*



Carpet Bowling Club

The Club has had another successful and enjoyable outing at Girvan on 23rd July. The weather was fine and there were 35 bowlers and two spectators, an increase on last year's attendance. The members were joined by friends, some hopefully may think about joining the Club next session. We had an excellent high tea provided by Girvan Bowling Club.

The winning rink was Morag Hannah, Isabella Kerr and Wellwood Grierson. The prize for the first toucher of the afternoon went to Ian Henderson. The rink with the most shots against will remain anonymous, though we all know who they were. The prizes were presented by Morag Hannah and Bill Hannah became official photographer for the afternoon [with others]. The evidence of the afternoon was on display in the fellowship area of the Church. My thanks to all who helped and whose attendance made for a great day out.

The new session of the Club will start on Monday 22nd September and any new members will be made welcome. Unfortunately I will be on holiday but the Vice President, Jim Roy and the team will be on hand.

Wellwood Grierson, President.

Thank you

Henry and Rita Walker would like to thank everyone who sent cards for their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Your kindness was very much appreciated.

WEE KIRKS

Recently I was asked by a new member of the Church ‘What are Wee Kirks?’ It struck me that there may be a few other members who are not too sure of the Wee Kirks scheme. Well this is a Wee Kirk:-



PUZZLE : One of our collectors had a wee kirk which contained £13.68. It was made up of four different denominations of coins. There is exactly the same number of each coin. How many coins are there and what are their values? The answer will be in the next magazine.

As a matter of interest a wee kirk holds approximately £6 of pennies, possibly £120 of 20 pence pieces, and so on if you wish.

Let your collector know how much you can cram in.

They may not be too happy because it is a problem getting it out again, but a nice problem to have.

The Wee Kirks have been a feature of Castlehill Church for many years. They originated from an idea suggested by an elder in Dalmellington Church. The suggestion was taken up by Tom Blair and Robert Crockett, members of the Session at that time. The money collected was to help pay for the cost of the North Hall. When the Hall finances were completed, it was decided to carry on the idea to supplement Church funds. The first Wee Kirks were wooden ones and some are still in existence. Well over sixty thousand pounds has been collected in this way and the congregation’s thanks should go out to the members who faithfully have popped their loose change into the Wee Kirks. There have been many dedicated collectors over the years that call and collect the cash and there are still some who have been doing this almost since its inception. It also takes the form of a pastoral visit for some of our older members who do not get out too much and many friendships have been struck up over the years.

Currently the annual income is over £2,500 and should any of the contributors pay tax and register in the Gift Aid Scheme, the Church would be able to reclaim a further 23% from the Inland Revenue. The Gift Aid Scheme is confidential and details can be obtained from the Church Treasurer, Douglas Wilson.

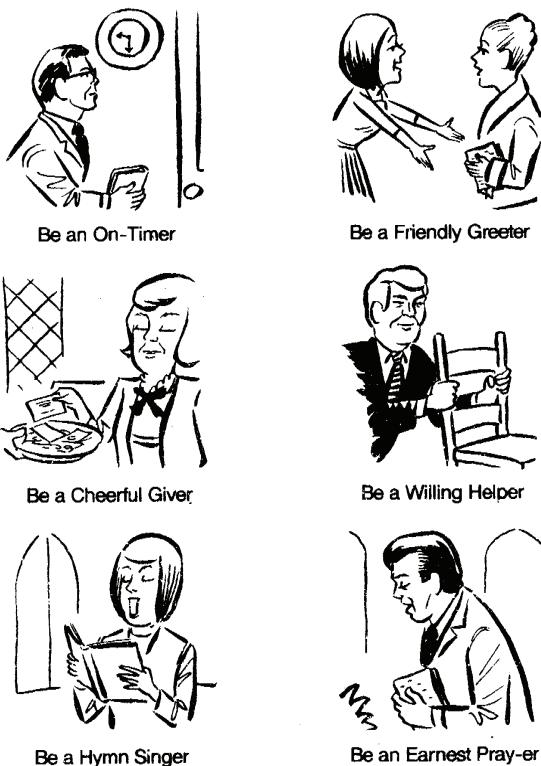
This is a painless way of giving and can be of tremendous value to our Church. There is a spare one around for you. Phone the office or direct to me on 285903.
W.G.Grierson
Wee Kirks Convenor.

Traidcraft

There will be a Traidcraft stall in the Fellowship Area on Sunday 7th & Sunday 14th of September. Please support the stall and help the producers of these products to receive a fair wage. This enables them to feed, clothe and educate their families.

Things which all too often are taken for granted in the UK

Six Little Ways to Mean More to Your Church



Fabric Report

The Church bell tower water leak problem has been resolved and there has been no water ingress since the repairs were carried out, and the work to repair damage to the broken concrete on the support legs to the cross is progressing.

The old heaters in the main hall have been removed and the radiators have been flushed and cleaned and are now operating more efficiently.

The Church sign which was vandalised is currently being attended to and a new one should be up very soon.

There are ongoing discussions about the Church roof, hopefully a solution to the problem of leaks will be rectified soon.

The "Manse Makeover" was a great success and special thanks go to all who helped including gardeners, but especially to Mike Hardie my "Guiding Light"

David Lynch
Property Convener

CHILDREN'S

C

JESUS HEALS MANY

O



How are you getting on? Harry and I are finding out that everywhere Jesus went, he made a difference to people. He healed those who were sick, preached the Good News about God's kingdom and cast out evil spirits.

R

Hey, that's right Jess. It's amazing what we're discovering in the Bible! Look at this - this is what the prophet Isaiah said about Jesus hundreds of years before he was even born!

N

He took our sicknesses and our sorrows. Isaiah 53:4

E

JESUS AT PETER'S HOUSE

R

Jesus went to his disciple Peter's house and saw Peter's mother-in-law ill in bed with a fever. Jesus touched her hand and the fever left her. She got up straight away and began to wait on him. Have a go at this join the dots picture and guess who it is. Then you can colour it in.



THE WHEAT AND WEEDS

Here's a story Jesus told.

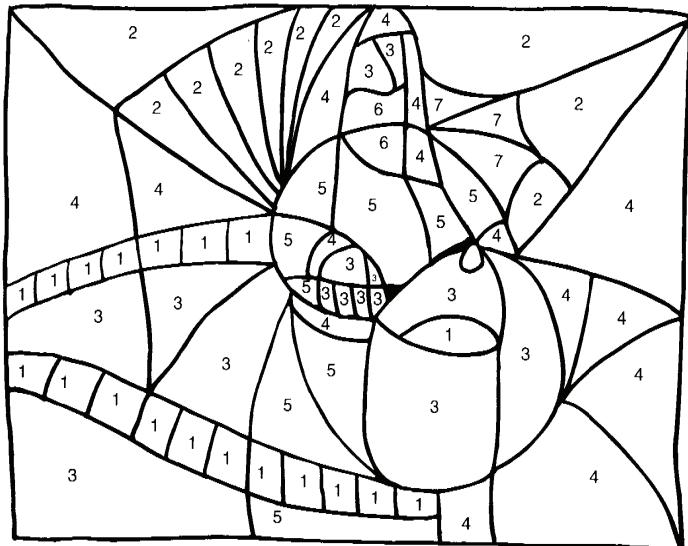
The Kingdom of Heaven is like a farmer who planted good seed in a field. One night an enemy planted weeds in the wheat. The weeds grew and a servant saw it. "Sir, the field is full of weeds," he said.

"An enemy has done it," said the farmer.

"Shall we pull out the weeds?"

"No," the farmer replied. "You'll hurt the wheat if you do. Wait until the harvest, and then I will tell the harvesters to sort out the weeds and burn them. Then they can put the wheat in the barn." Jesus explained that

he is the farmer who plants the good seed. The field is the world and the good seeds are the people who love God and follow him. The weeds are the people who belong to Satan, the enemy. The harvest is the end of the world, and the harvesters are the angels. At the end of the world, the angels will remove everything that causes sin, and all who do evil, and throw them into hell. Then the godly will shine like the sun in God's kingdom.



1 - Yellow

2 - Blue

3 - Brown

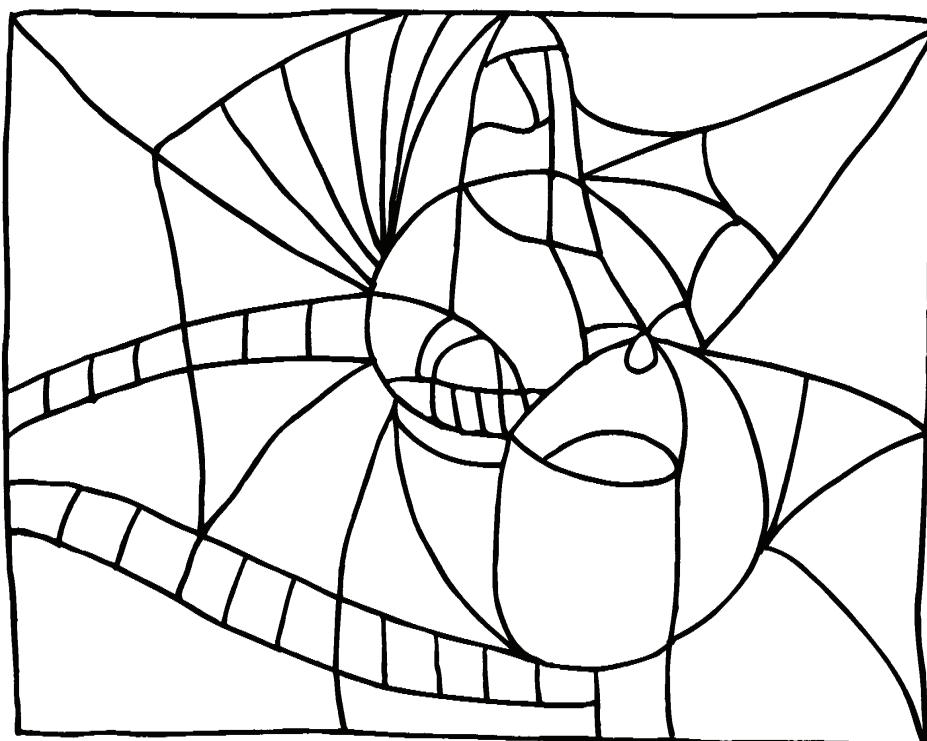
4 - Green

5 - Red

6 - Black

7 - Orange

Matthew
13



The picture
above shows
you what
colours to
use

C
H
I
L
D
R
E
N
S

C O R N E R

The Mule in the Well



A farmer owned an old mule that fell into his well. After carefully assessing the situation, the farmer sympathised with the mule, but decided that neither the mule nor the well was worth the trouble of saving. Instead, he called his neighbours together, told them what had happened and enlisted them to help haul dirt to bury the old mule in the well and put him out of his misery. Initially, the old mule was hysterical! However, as the farmer and his neighbours continued shovelling and the dirt hit his back, a thought struck him. It suddenly dawned on him that every time a shovel load of dirt landed on his back ... HE WOULD SHAKE IT OFF AND STEP UP! This he did, blow after blow. "Shake it off and step up .. shake it off and step up .. shake it off and step up!" he repeated to encourage himself. No matter how painful the blows, or how distressing the situation seemed, the old mule fought panic and just kept shaking it off, and stepping up! It wasn't long before the old mule, battered and exhausted, STEPPED TRIUMPHANTLY OVER THE WALL OF THAT WELL! What seemed as if it would bury him actually helped him .. all because of the manner in which he handled his adversity. THAT'S LIFE! If we face our problems and respond to them positively, and refuse to give in to panic, bitterness, or self-pity. The adversities that come along to bury us usually have within them the very real potential to benefit us!

God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary work

In September 2001, Lisa Jefferson had an unexpected opportunity to be used by God. Her now well-known 15 minute conversation with a passenger on United Flight 93 forever changed the direction of her life.

In her book "Called" she emphasises that her listening skills and her ability to take charge and stay calm in a crisis were used to encourage fellow believer Todd Beamer in the last moments of his life.

She didn't ask to be used that way. But God saw a woman who was available and matched her with someone who was in need. Lisa now shares her story with whomever she can to encourage believers to always be ready to serve.

Not only has God given us natural abilities. He also equips every believer with spiritual gifts for the purpose of ministry. God doesn't use the unwilling. He won't force us to serve Him. His part is to equip us (Eph 4 : 11-13) and empower and prepare us for service. Our part is to be faithful and available and aware of opportunities to use our gifts (Rom 12:6). When you feel impelled to help fill a need when you are inwardly driven to serve-listen to those thoughts.

You don't want to miss God's call.

Cindy Hess



PRAYER CHAIN

If you would like us to help you in times of need,
please contact one of the following.

Margaret MacCormick	263949
Margaret Cairns	265217
Rosemary Ash	443765
Elizabeth Graham	261486
Sheila MacKenzie	281121
Isobel Wilson	268859
Linda Telfer	288613
John Doig	269685
Joyce Henderson	618168
Betty Dunlop	280672
Margaret Grierson	285903
Sandra Wyllie	286115

BE ASSURED THAT ALL INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL

"Faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love"

1 Corinthians 13: 13

It is with great loss to the Prayer Chain, that Caroline Fisher, one of our stalwart members has died. She passed away at the beginning of June.

She will always be remembered for her meticulous attention to details given to her regarding any prayer requests, and she always remembered them for a long time afterwards. She had a very strong faith and spirit, and a very active mind regardless of her frailties.

Fond memories of her will remain with us, and she will be greatly missed.

Castlehill Church of Scotland Guild



The Guild resumes on Wednesday 1st October 2008 in the North Hall at 7.30 pm., when the entertainment for the evening will be "The Ayre Music Makers". ~ Tickets will be on sale in September . A warm welcome is waiting for any new members and our present members for our 2008/9 Session.

Food for thought

Watching the news on television in recent times, we have been shown depressing and upsetting pictures of countries where famine and drought are causing starvation and dehydration, and people are in desperate situations through lack of nourishment.

We get many appeals for money from charities to help in these despicable times.

Bad as it is most appeals are for tangible things –food, blankets and tents,
but only a few appeals mention funds for Bibles.

We in this country are rich compared to many others. We have food in the shops and plenty of water at the turn of a tap, and are able to buy Bibles, with a wide choice of interpretations. It is said to be the book with the highest amount of sales in the world, yet how often are our Bibles used in our own homes? It is also said that some children do not know who Jesus is! Long gone are the days when the Bible was read every night to the family and Grace said at mealtimes.

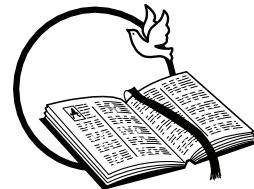
Just as we need food for our bodies, we also need spiritual food.

An unopened Bible is like having a cupboard full of food, and not eating it.

Are we starving ourselves of spiritual nourishment?

It's worth more than just a passing thought isn't it?

*I am the bread of life;
He who comes to me shall not hunger
He who believes in me shall not thirst.
No-one can come to me unless the Father draw him*



Margaret MacCormick
Prayer Promoter



Used Stamps

I am writing to thank you for the collection of used stamps which the congregation at Castlehill Church have sent us. Thanks to everybody involved in collecting these stamps and for their continued support and hard work. It is through such efforts that a total of £2,057.50 has been raised to help disabled children in China.

This year's project is going to SUMI (Scottish University Mission Institute) in India. SUMI is a boys' school in Kalimpong. The Principal noticed that some of the girls in the surrounding district were bright and eager to learn but had, through some reason or another, dropped out of school. So he invited them to join SUMI so that they could be educated and get back into the mainstream school system again. The money raised from the stamps will go to help pay for the girls' education.

Nikki Skinner
Stamp Centre

If anyone is interested in taking on the Editorship of the magazine , could they please contact the office.



The Winter 2008 Newsletter will be issued in mid November
If anyone has any articles, they should be handed into
the office by Mid October

PASTORAL CARE ~ HOSPITAL VISITING

A team of hospital visitors are available to visit members of the congregation who are admitted to hospital. Ensuring that someone who needs a visit gets one, depends on the team being informed as soon as possible after the person has been admitted to hospital.

It would be appreciated if a family member or a close friend would contact a team member to let them know a visit is required.

Contact Nos. of team are as follows :

Church Office	Sandra Wyllie	267332
Biggart Hospital	Margaret MacCormick	263949
	Margaret Grierson	285903
Ailsa Hospital	Andrew Graham	261486
Ayr Hospital	Pat Colquhoun	267749

All information will be strictly confidential.



Our Church magazine is now available on our website
(www.castlehillchurch.org).

It is also available to be sent by email. Anyone wishing the magazine to be sent to themselves or indeed friends and family, please let the office know.



Wedding
Scott Graham and Diane Mullins
26th July at Piersland Hotel

New Members

*Ms Elizabeth Lennox, Mrs. Sharon Deighton
& Mr. Craig Mennie*

*We warmly welcome them
into the Congregation of Castlehill Church*

Funerals

June

*Mrs. Fiona Simpson, Kincaidston
Mrs. Caroline Fisher, Queens Care Home
Mrs. May Mayberry, Hillfoot Road*

July

Mr. Alan Hanson, Burnbank Road

Regular Weekly Events

Sunday

Youth Church

Bell Ringers

Morning Service

Creche

Bowling Club

Highland
Dancing

Brownies

Guides

Tuesday

Coffee
Shop

Guides

Line Dancing

Rainbows

Brownies

Anchor Boys

Child Minders
Group

Wednesday

Music Makers

Line Dancing

Bowling Club

Guild

Seniors
Keep Fit

Thursday

Weightwatchers

Tai Ji

Enjoy-a-ball

Board & Session

Friday

Enjoy-a-ball

Boys
Brigade

Hazelbank
Mothers & Toddlers

Saturday

Weightwatchers

*For current meeting
times of the various
organisations
please contact the office*

Local Care Teams in your community

Personal Care & Bathing

Household cleaning

Assistance with meals and medication

Pension, prescription & shopping services

Overnight care & respite services

Free consultation & advisory service

Tel: 01292 473935

Email: info@hrmhomecare.co.uk

Regulated and inspected by the Care Commission



HRM HOMECARE SERVICES LTD



Tom Callaghan
Windows and
Conservatories Ltd.



Windows

Roof Trims

Doors

Conservatories

Unit 2, Block 3
North Harbour Industrial Estate
Ayr KA8 8BN
Tel No. 01292 288 445

Ayr Pipe Band Society

Stun your guests with a
15 to 20 minute
evening performance
by a
Major Prize Winning
Pipe Band
Only £450

Keiran McPate : 01292 476701



Do you know of anyone who might like to advertise?
Please contact Liz Reid or the church office for more information

R. G. Christian (Insurance Services) Ltd.

34 Newmarket Street • Ayr • KA7 1LP

Tel : 01292 284118 • Fax : 01292 289902

Email : rgchristian@btconnect.com

All Classes of Insurance

- Independent Financial Advice
- Mortgage Advisers



Frank O'Lone

Roofing

Telephone: 01292 261882

Mobile: 0771 139 1967

Unit 5, 7 Kyle Road

Irvine KA12 8JF

fire extinguisher sales & service

West Coast Fire

fire safety training

risk assessments

01294 272700

www.westcoastfire.co.uk