



**Partick Victoria Park Church of Scotland**  
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**June 2023**

### **“How’s the union going”**

If I was given a £1 for every time, I have had someone ask me, “How’s the union going,” I would be a very rich man. I wonder if you are being asked the same question? How did you respond, positively, I hope. From my perspective I believe it is going great, we appear to have adjusted well and everyone seems to be in a positive frame of mind. We have had 2 Kirk Session meetings and the Eldership appear to be in good form. I know by the conversations I am having that there is still a lot of unanswered questions and I am sure that as we air them and put them on our agenda, we will find our way through them. Some will be answered quickly, others will take more time and discussion, some may have to be dropped as we sense God’s calling. Can I encourage you, if you have a question or a niggle or something encouraging to say, please let either our Session Clerk Iain Fergus or myself know. I especially plead with you, if you have a niggle, please let Iain or I know and not to let it fester, a niggle shared can be a niggle solved.

I want to take a moment to let you about some of the bits and pieces we are up to behind the scenes. As you will have noticed we have painted most of the church areas, and over the summer we plan to put down new flooring and paint the Young Church room. This will mean that only the large hall and a couple of small offices will need looked at next year. We are also looking to replace our back hall boiler as it appears not adequately heat the back hall in the winter. Outside, one of our members Inga is looking to develop the gravelled area at the back of the church to have flower and vegetable beds and a whole lot more. This would be phase 1 of developing our outdoor space and will be a fully accessible space. To do this will take quite a considerable amount of expenditure, Inga is exploring various funding options.

In terms of the Balshagray Centre, we are mainly focusing on the dry rot issue, however, we are in the process of painting the entrance area, as well as creating a prayer space in the Sanctuary. My hope is to be able to re-open the Sanctuary as a quiet space towards the end of the summer, as we continue to re-shape our community mission.

We are also looking at the front area to make it more user friendly and possibly create some sort of community outdoor space. This is going to take quite a bit of hard work and we will be looking at setting up some work parties to achieve this and gratefully some people have already volunteered. I am hoping to have a Coffee Morning in the Balshagray Centre, possibly in early September, to show you how the initial work is progressing. In relation to the two manses, we are looking at basic upgrades to maintain their already high standard.

Over the next few weeks Anne-Marie Masson and I are going to be looking at putting in place a new pastoral care plan, utilising members of the congregation who have a particular skill, heart and calling in this area.

All in all, it is going to be a very busy and exciting period of time and I would encourage you to get involved and most importantly to pray for your Eldership, our church family and myself.

Have a great summer, enjoy the sun and keep praising God

Blessings and peace,

Andy

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### **Coffee Morning & Plant Sale**

There will be a Coffee Morning and Plant Sale on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June from 11am-1pm to raise funds for 'Cup of Cool Water' charity in Burundi.

Tickets priced £2 are available from the Minister or May McIntyre

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### **Coming soon**

Family Funday, mid-August

September Coffee morning [2<sup>nd</sup> September]

Harvest soup and sandwich lunch [1<sup>st</sup> October]

### **Local Activities**

#### **Messy Church BBQ**

Scotstoun Parish Church on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 4pm

80 Earlbank Avenue, Scotstoun, G14 9DU

All welcome for some messy church fun outdoors at the church building and of course, a Messy BBQ

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#### **Messy Church**

Whiteinch Parish Church on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June from

3.30pm-5.30pm at the Whiteinch Centre.

All welcome, the event is free and includes games, crafts, food and family fun.