

Virtually, on Tuesday 16 June 2020 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in virtually due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev George Shand, Moderator and Rev Bryan Kerr, Clerk along with others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 15 Ministers, 11 Elders, 2 Corresponding Member and 2 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs E Clelland, Minister; and D Waters, Elder.

Constitution of Presbytery

The Moderator led the Presbytery in praise and prayer and constituted the meeting.

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting, especially Mrs Karen Gillon from the Church of Scotland Guild.

Approval of the Order of Business

The Order of Business as circulated was approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

Presbytery noted that no decisions had been taken under delegated powers

Correspondence

The Clerk informed members that all items of correspondence had been notified via email and that a number of pieces of correspondence had been received and remitted to appropriate Committee Conveners or passed on by e-mail to Ministers, Session Clerks and members of Presbytery.

Good News Stories

Mrs Anne Reid, Carluke: St. John's spoke of a virtual praise night on Zoom with over 70 people attending along with a virtual Bible Study Group.

Experiences from around the Presbytery

The Clerk circulated a paper (Appendix 1) outlining some of the work in which congregations within the bounds have been engaged during the Covid-19 lockdown.

Lanark Guilds Together

The moderator invited Mrs Dorothy Wiseman, Convenor to present her annual report to Presbytery. Mrs Wiseman spoke of the year just passed and of the many ways in which Guilds within churches across Presbytery were supporting local and national projects as well as working to develop faith and friendship amongst the members. Mrs Wiseman spoke of the disappointment of many Guilds that the end of the session was cut short due to Covid and asked for the support of Presbytery in working to ensure that local groups can open when it is safe to do so. Mrs Wiseman also spoken encouragingly of the ways in which Guilds have been working to ensure they keep contact with those who might be more vulnerable in their membership.

The Moderator thanks Mrs Wiseman and assured her of the support and prayer of Presbytery.

The National Church of Scotland Guild

The Moderator invited Mrs Karen Gillon from the national office, and an elder at Carluke: St. John's to address the Presbytery. Mrs Gillon spoke of the ongoing challenge for the Guild in seeking a return to normal activities given the vulnerability of many members. She explained that all groups are being communicated with and encourages churches to continue to foster the links between church and Guild. Mrs Gillon expressed the

understanding that this is a very difficult time for the Church and our nation but encouraged all churches to ensure that our Guilds were part of the discussions on how to reopen and safely resume activity.

The Moderator thanks Mrs Gillon for the attendance and encouraged Presbytery to pray for the work of the Guild.

Group Discussion

The Presbytery held a discussion on the ways in which churches were working during lockdown, and the ways in which churches could move out of lockdown when the time came.

It was noted that it would be much more difficult to move out of lockdown than it was to move into lockdown for our churches.

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Presbytery Support Committee which was given in by Mr. Scott Paget, Convener.

It was moved, seconded, and agreed -

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. In respect of reopening of church buildings:
 - a. Instruct all Kirk Sessions to have discussion on the section on 'Being Church' in the Church of Scotland Guidelines.
 - b. Instruct Kirk Sessions to submit a completed Checklist, Covid-19 Risk Assessment and Extract minute confirming desire to reopen the church building(s), and approval of documents to the Presbytery Clerk in advance of reopening.
 - c. Grant powers to the Clerk, Depute Clerk, Moderator and Presbytery Support Convener to grant permission to open church building(s) if the committee are content that the congregation have suitable measures in place to allow a safe reopening and management of building(s), all paperwork has been submitted, and after conference with the minister that there is agreement between minister and Kirk Session.
 - d. Inform all Kirk Sessions that any breach on procedures or what is allowable activity within Church building(s) at each stage of the Phased approach may result in closure of buildings in the congregation until issues can be resolved.
 - e. Grant powers to the Clerk, Depute Clerk, Moderator and Presbytery Support Convener to act with the authority of Presbytery to order the temporary closure of church building(s) should any breaches of guidelines occur.
 - f. For the avoidance of doubt, where permission to reopen a church building(s) is granted in accordance with section 2(c) above this revokes the decision of Presbytery on 23rd March 2020 that "no church building in Lanark Presbytery are should be open for individual prayer until further notice and until this decision is revoked by Presbytery."
 - g. Note that the Clerk has organised an evening meeting on 18th June 2020 to discuss the process of reopening church building(s) with relevant individuals from congregations within the bounds.
3. Remind all congregations that should continue to remit Ministry and Mission contributions to the church offices but if they find themselves in financial difficulty during the COVID-19 closure and beyond, to speak to the Presbytery Clerk in the first instance.
4. Note that the Registration of Ministries process is delayed but is ongoing at this time.
5. In respect of meeting dates for 2020/2021
 - a. Agree that the Presbytery will meet for ordinary business on the following dates, at 7pm in Lanark: Greyfriars during the 2020/2021 session: 4 August, 8 September, 6 October, 3 November, 1 December, 2 February, 2 March, 4 May, 15 June.
 - b. Agree that the Worship & Discipleship and Relationship & Context committees will meet on the following dates, at 7pm in Lanark: Greyfriars during the 2020/2021 session: 18 August, 22 September, 20 October, 17 November, 19 January, 16 February, 23 March, 20 April, 1 June.

- c. Agree that the Presbytery Support Committee will meet on the following dates, at 7pm in Lanark: Greyfriars during the 2020/2021 session: 19 August, 23 September, 21 October, 18 November, 20 January, 17 February, 24 March, 21 April, 2 June.
- d. Agree that the Annual Inspection of Records will be held in Lanark: Greyfriars on 27th April 2021.
- e. Agree that where meetings cannot be held in person they will be held online and fall under the scope of Act 6, 2018
6. Appoint Mr Denham MacDougall (Cairngryffe), Mr Alan Grant (Carluke: St. John's), Mr William Love (Lanark: St. Nicholas), Mr William MacSween (Carluke: Kirkton) and Mr Scott Paget (Lanark: Greyfriars) as additional elders to Presbytery for the session 2020-2021.
7. Thank Mr Ewan Easton for his years of dedicated service as an elder to Presbytery and as Property Convener.
8. Note that it is still not possible to set a date for the attestation of congregational records and remind clerks and office bearers to have records collated in order that they can be brought for attestation at short notice.
9. Remind congregations of the deadline of 14 August 2020 for applications for the Ministry and Mission Variance Allowance to be submitted to the Presbytery Support Committee.
10. Grant powers to the Clerk, Depute Clerk, Moderator and Presbytery Support Convener from the close of the meeting until the opening of the next Ordinary meeting of Presbytery.

Intimations

Rev Elijah Obinna, Carluke: St. John's intimated a Praise Night on Zoom on 28 June 2020

Mr Obinna also highlighted the fundraising efforts of Mrs Rebecca Parker, 98, of McClymont House who is raising money (currently £4,717) for NHS charities by playing the piano each day for 100 days. The Clerk was instructed to write and express thanks to Mrs Parker.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 4 August 2020 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark (or online should that be the official advice).

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

Appendix I

What have our congregations been doing during Lockdown?

Kirkton Church

All members of congregation are being contacted by telephone through elders and other volunteers on a regular basis

After an extensive exercise to update our data, 3 newsletters (1 a month) have been sent out to all members and adherents by email wherever possible or by post if not.

The church noticeboard was altered to say that although the buildings were closed the church was not and offering help to the community. A limited number of people have taken up this offer.

We have regularly made available free "Try Praying" booklets on the gatepost of the Manse (below Try Praying banner) and these have been uplifted regularly by people in the community at a rate of between 6 and 10 a week. Handout leaflets echoing the noticeboard and giving contact details have also been placed in the same distribution box and around 45 of these have been taken.

Since the beginning of lockdown regular weekly online worship resources have been produced involving a number of members as well as the Minister, Youth Worker and Organist. Numbers visiting the website each Sunday/Monday average around 200 but have been as high as 400 on one particular week

An online Communion Service took place on 7th June

The Youth Worker has regularly led Zoom sessions with children as well as engaging them in preparing items for the weekly worship and other craft activities

The Youth Worker has also provided support for vulnerable families

The Church's Facebook Group has been widely used to disseminate information and the number of members of the group has risen considerably since lockdown- currently it has 416 members (including several people from the local community who are not members or regular adherents of the congregation)

To help members who are not on the internet to participate we now produce about 18-20 DVDs each week of the online worship, together with a handful of audio CDs for those who either do not want a DVD player or are partially sighted. We have supplied 3 DVD-players and 1 CD player to those who did not have any

Our Church website was updated to provide relevant and up-to-date information on our various responses to the pandemic and also to host the online worship

I have produced a daily blog since the beginning of April that is available on both the website and the Church Facebook Group as well as my personal Facebook Page

Various members of the congregation have helped with delivery of groceries and medicines

We have continued to supply to bereaved families printed copies of Funeral Services that have taken place

We have joined and contributed to the new OneCarluke website

We have held several Kirk Session meetings by Zoom

Members of the choir have kept in contact with each other through a WhatsApp group

A telephone/email/text Prayer Chain continues to operate

The Church provided food vouchers to Primary School children as identified by Head Teachers using the Kirk Session Benevolent Fund

We held a 'virtual Souper Sunday' and raised money for the local Foodbank

A special working group has been set up to plan for re-opening church buildings when restrictions are eased.

Hand-Sanitisers have been installed at all strategic points

A Community Defibrillator has been installed on the outside wall of the Church Halls

A Church PayPal Account is being set up for online donations

We have registered for Audio phone streaming but it is not up and running as yet

Uniformed Organisations have kept in touch with their members through Facebook and other social media

During Christian Aid we directed people through our own website to make donations through the Christian Aid website

Carluke: St. Andrews

To stay in touch with those in our congregation and those we support through the Drop in we have used

- Zoom KS meetings every two weeks at present
- a mixture of phone calls from elders/minister/weekly e-mail update to everyone with e-mail
- Magazine currently in production to post/e-mail/deliver
- Weekly Zoom sessions – 3 times a week – one with music one for Church family and one reflective worship. These include folk from Drop in where they are able to join us . There is also a Heart for Art online session fortnightly on Go to meeting (Crossreach art tutor led)
- Posted direct to a number of those who come to Drop in and related activities – jigsaws, games, aqua paints, Heart for Art packs
- Some contact by phone/email from Coordinator to folk from Drop in
- Arranged playlists of music working with Playlist for Life
- Spiritual care resource packs are about to be delivered to all those without internet and others who would benefit
- Singing at door/window for some of our elderly folk who are shielding
- Volunteers have provided support to a number of people in terms of shopping etc
- Activity packs have been delivered to Milton Grange Care home and regular contact made by phone

Biggar Kirk

Sunday Worship - We began with live streaming services, but when lockdown came into place, we have been prerecording our services every Sunday from the manse sitting room. The minister has had to get to grips with the technology required. This has not been trouble-free!

Folks have been helping with music by recording voices to backing tracks often played by one of our musicians or by a guest musician. We have been able to introduce the congregation to different styles of music which may have not been possible ordinarily.

We have included videos of church members in lockdown, some have sent fun videos of their experiences, others have engaged in Zoom interviews with the minister. We've also had an interview with mission partners in Bangkok and various guest speakers from around the world have sent us messages to include in our service. An elder who has been participating in the 'Leading Worship' course recorded a message to be shared in one service.

A highlight, of course, was the moderator's service on Pentecost Sunday. This gave the minister a much-needed week off!

We have been surprised by the numbers of people viewing our services which have far surpassed the numbers we were getting in the church building before the lockdown.

The minister was contacted by two different people who started joining us online and who wanted to know more about how to become a Christian and be more involved in the church.

Community Engagement – From before the lockdown our community organised an action group to consider its response to the crisis. The church has been represented on the group from its inception.

The Community Action Group

has helped organise a system of running errands (buying groceries, delivering prescriptions and organising tradespeople to help in emergencies) for people who are self-isolating.

organised queuing outside local shops, helping to maintain social distancing.

helped with hot meals twice weekly for 50 vulnerable individuals (the church made the application and was awarded a grant from South Lanarkshire Council for this initiative)

coordinated the collection for and the distribution of ‘boxes of kindness’ – mainly for folks who are on their own during the crisis. These individuals were by and large identified by the church.

Biggar Kirk continues to run a satellite for the Clydesdale Foodbank. We have received even more support than ever before from the community for the foodbank.

Last Sunday we had a ‘virtual’ Gala service online in lieu of what we usually have in the Kirk building.

Pastoral Care – Throughout the lockdown we have had an online ‘pinboard’ where people in the community and the church can post prayer requests and answers to prayer.

Elders have been phoning people in their districts and letting the minister know of any special needs. Early on we developed notes that elders could refer to when making phone calls so to be sure that the needs of individuals were being covered in the conversations.

The weekly prayer meeting has moved from the hall on a Sunday evening to Zoom on a Wednesday at lunchtime. We have tripled the numbers of people attending!

The weekly prayer email continues to be sent to intercessors in the congregation.

The minister has written a weekly email to every member of the congregation for encouragement and to let them know what is happening and what needs there are that they can practically and prayerfully respond to.

Fellowship and Study Groups – Groups that used to meet in homes have moved to using Zoom. Groups presently at Biggar Kirk include: Two Bible study and fellowship Groups, a leadership ‘huddle’, a ‘Freedom in Christ’ group, a group doing the ‘Prayer Course’ and a group doing a health and wholeness course. These groups have continued to be a positive experience for all involved.

Several weeks back we began to meet for coffee on Zoom before and after a Sunday service. If numbers are high, which has happened on occasion, we direct participants to breakout rooms.

Young People – our young people have contributed videos to our times of worship—the latest is a video of children leading the congregation in the Lord’s Prayer. A weekly email is sent to all parents with activities kids can do during the week to follow-up from the theme of the service on Sunday.

Giving – by phone the treasurer has contacted all members who normally give by freewill envelopes suggesting alternatives ways to give and offering to pick up envelopes. An announcement has been made online each Sunday concerning ways to give.

Our income, however, suffers because our halls are not able to be used by the many groups that had been renting from us in the past. The Gillespie Centre too has had to shut—depriving us not only of that income, but also the opportunity to reach out to our community.

Session – we have had one session meeting online (and by phone) which, to my mind, was very successful. Only one elder did not participate because she was not able to use the necessary technology.

Black Mount

Sunday Worship -Black Mount joins with Biggar in the Sunday morning services online. One member shared a video of life in lockdown at lambing season. It is hoped that some members will also help with the music via pre-recorded tracks in the coming weeks.

Members who are not able to access the services have CDs of the audio recording delivered during the week.

Pastoral Care – Elders and members continue to keep a look out for one another via telephone calls.

Douglas Valley Church.

As a Locum Minister I live 15 miles away from the communities I serve. This has always been problematic but during the pandemic it has made life more difficult to keep up with what is happening in Douglas and Rigside.

I have continued to offer pastoral support to those who have been bereaved. This has been done using telephone and e-mail.

In the Douglas Valley 2020 has seen a much higher death rate than in the previous two years. In the first 5 months of 2020 I have carried out more funerals than in the whole of 2019! None of these have been directly related to Covid 19. I wonder if this has been noticed presbytery wide or is confined to the Douglas Valley.

From the first week of lockdown I have produced a weekly newsletter. This began as a way of keeping members up to date with what was happening in the church. I saw it as a way of keeping the church community connected.

However it quickly developed into a written mini service. It consists of an introduction from me. This is usually about what's happening in my life with a bit of bible teaching, then we have a couple of prayers, the weekly lectionary readings we would have had if the church had been meeting, a short thought followed by any intimations. I have used the intimations to let folk know what is happening in the national church, how to access online services and how to give to the church using online banking.

At the start of lockdown the newsletter was sent to elders and some members that we had e-mail addressed for. We asked them to pass it on to those they thought might be interested. We also encouraged people to give us their e-mail addresses so we could send them their own personal copy. We also put it onto our Facebook page.

We began with about 10 copies sent out by e-mail, now on a weekly basis 40 copies are sent out electronically and a further 30 hard copies are delivered to those without e-mails.

On the Facebook page, at the start of lockdown we had around 30 people viewing its pages. This has steadily grown and is holding now at a steady 100 plus per week.

On a normal Sunday I would expect a congregation of about 45 people (Douglas 35 Rigside 10) now we reach a much wider audience.

We are clearly reaching people that don't come to church but who are interested in what we do and some who are in need of spiritual food in their lives.

We are also allowing the Community Council to use the church building for storage of food parcels etc. We took advice from Edinburgh about this. The sanctuary is not used. Whether it has ever been used am unsure.

The National church need to look at how we count church interest and connection other than membership levels.

When we are able to meet for regular worship again I intend to keep the newsletter going in some format, to see if interest keeps up.

It has also become clear that our membership records are inadequate for society today. As a matter of course we need to be able to reach members by e-mail and other methods.

It is also apparent that in the Douglas Valley a sizable number of people don't have on line access. We also have an older population who may well have online access but who need their children or grandchildren to help them access things like Zoom etc.

Coalburn and Lesmahagow Parish Church.

Immediately following the decision that church buildings were to close, members were notified. All Elders were asked to contact each member in their District by telephone (where numbers were known) and enquire of their well-being. This initial call would be followed by regular telephone contact with offers of help with basic shopping, collection and delivery of prescriptions etc., for those in a 'vulnerable' category with no family to help. This is ongoing.

Weekly reflections and prayers are posted on Coalburn and Lesmahagow Parish Church facebook page. In addition, others receive copies by email while a limited number are printed and posted to those with no internet access.

Online services from other locations are made known but feedback indicates a strong preference for people to gather, albeit socially distant, within a building and join with others in worship and fellowship.

Session and other meetings have been held via zoom but, again, this creates particular difficulties for those with no computer or internet facilities.

On the finance front, and in line with Church of Scotland guidelines, in order to maintain regular givings alternatives to Freewill Offering envelopes have been discussed by Session, members subsequently made aware of these alternatives and encouraged to change.

Kirkmuirhill Parish Church

Church Focussed

Sunday – Online Service goes live each week on YouTube and is linked to the Church Facebook page. The sermon for that week then goes on the website as an audio track. A Twilio line has been set up to allow people to listen in to the sermon over the phone. This also goes live at I Iam. Y-Zone (Sunday School) are given an activity pack each week with puzzle sheets and teaching material. This has been developed by our Y-Zone leaders. Young people have been involved in services in various ways.

Worship Wednesday – Weekly reflection on a hymn or Christian worship song.

Theology Thursday – Fortnightly study on different 'ologies' or doctrines of the Christian faith as suggested by members of the congregation.

Other – Elders are continuing to phone round their districts on a regular basis to continue pastoral contacts. Any specific pastoral needs can then be passed to the minister. Minister has spoken to every member and adherent that we have a contact number for. A 'Praying for you' postcard was sent to every member and adherent. Plans are beginning to be put in place to run our holiday club virtually this year.

Community Focussed

Minister is a member of the Resilience Group Committee who have based their hub in the church building. The hub has become home to a team of call handlers who are located at the church each morning. They are then responsible for allocating a response team depending on the need that is required. This may include an emergency food parcel, a local shop (Spar, Tesco Co-op) a prescription pick up or drop off. The hub is also home to an emergency food bank and is the centre for the donations from the community, which has included food and money but also books, games, DVDs and jigsaws which have been utilised to alleviate isolation and boredom in the community.

The hub is also the base for the community outreach and recovery. These activities include;

Outreach Activity Packs

Environmental poster packs

Recycled garden challenge

TikTok Challenges for Teenagers

Coffee and Chat (isolated members of the community are paired with someone from the community. They then receive a delivery of a cupcake and are able to speak to someone outside their usual circle)

School Uniform exchange

Wednesday night quiz night (Run by another member of the committee with prizes donated by the local business community)

Sunday High Tea (With high tea supplied by the local restaurant)

Messages of Hope (Written by young people which are then sent out to those in the community who are isolating)

A Story writing competition

Easter Bonnet Competition

This week (08/06/20-13/06/20) is the usual Gala Week. There are events happening each day from a mini disco to judging the best decorated house. Plans are being developed for the future and into the summer. Community recovery will also involve the local businesses to best support them in the future.

Crossford and Kirkfieldbank

during lockdown we have been producing a wee message and putting on youtube and on the telephone line. I and the elders have kept in touch with the members through the telephone and text messages, and have regularly put out prayer points by text.

The Tinto Parishes

What activities have you been undertaking?

Couple of funerals

Telephone calls to sheltered members and those at work, and others (minister) and to districts and friends (elders).

Trying to devise a communications strategy that makes sense to me (minister) which includes

Running Sunday worship on Zoom

Midweek reflective worship – monthly - on Zoom

Writing up a weekly newsletter for email and a monthly newsletter for postal delivery to those without internet access

Learning and continual updating of skills on Zoom,

including involving others, recording input, with a view to having more than one Host, and to make the experience more connective and satisfactory, etc

Exploring other options – initial research into Twilio

Researching channel on YouTube for Slide reflections

Some administrative catch-up

Trying to catch up on some reading – with not a lot of success

Trying to be responsive to what new things might be possible, to keeping informed, engaged with colleagues, enjoying family life, keep sane.

Now, setting up a new computer so the Zoom experience is better, and the old computer can have a rest

How have you kept in church with members?

Initial priority was to find a way to engage with those who wanted to continue a fellowship experience in worship. Zoom – which connects with 35 to 45 people regularly, and a few additional people -

To continue to develop that experience into more social fellowship through breakout rooms – mixed groups occasionally, and church related groups more often. This gives me opportunities for catch up with a fair number of people.

Through finding new ways for members to contribute to the worship – some Worship leaders do the occasional reflection, other do the scripture readings. Some members can contribute to the visual materials - local area pictures, thematic pictures, etc. Try to get some singers to record.

To engage electronically with a wider group – weekly mailout to all members and contacts who are on email, including devotional and reflective materials, and an Order of Service and link for the Zoom service.

To engage with members who do not have internet access

Monthly postal mailout of newsletter (local support information, reflection, etc) to any member not on the email list

Establishing a telephone reflection line targeted mainly at those with no computer access – weekly reflections, hopefully through time based on Sunday reflections.

Seeking to move towards a YouTube channel for some slide recordings – still based on the most visual of the weekly reflections. That's more outreach than members.

Lanark: Greyfriars

Worship

- Sunday morning 'Live' Worship at I am with St. Nicholas Church – developing new content and reflections
- Weekly reflections on Facebooks
- One Minute Sermons on Facebook and YouTube
- Tuesday and Thursday evening midweek worship on Zoom with St. Nicholas
- Holy Week Evening Services every night
- Ecumenical Service in Lanark on Easter Sunday
- Two services of Communion online

Pastoral Care

- Regular phone round of congregation
- Identification of more vulnerable individuals to phone more regularly
- Establishment of a 'card' ministry sending greetings cards to those in hospital/ isolated etc
- Funerals
- Phone calls to those in distress and suffering bereavement/ illness/ family concerns

Community Support

Working with other community groups and churches to establish community support project Lanarkhelps

- Community Support Phone Line

- Co-ordination of Volunteers
- Shopping and Prescription Requests
- Establishment of activity library with jigsaws
- Donations of Mindfulness colouring books
- Establishment of demntia support activity library
- Community Check-In (phone calls)
- Family Support (Family activity packs to vulnerable households)
- Supporting Hear for You with extra capacity
- Emergency Food Delivery
- Supporting Foodbank with referrals and drivers

Greyfriars has provided the governance and IT support for the project.

Administration

- Kirk Session meetings
- Planning meetings
- Grant Finance Applications for support
- Building remaining open for emergency use as community support project

Carluke: St. John's Congregational Life During the Lockdown

Communication

- Members of our congregation are being contacted by telephone by some of the elders and other volunteers on a regular basis.
- 2 pastoral letters (April and June) have been sent out to all members and adherents by email. We asked members to pass it on to those they thought might be interested to know what is happening in the congregation and community.
- Our congregational Communication team, has been doing an excellent job with updating our website and Facebook account and the Youth Church Facebook account have been widely used to disseminate information and to be in contact with members and the community.
- Congregational Youth church leaders have been communicating via phone calls, sending of cards to children and celebrating their transitions.
- Members of the Guild and Tuesday Bible study group (Tuesday Connect) have kept in contact with each other through a telephone/email/text.
- Giving – members have been advised to contact the treasurer by phone or email on how to make their donations or offerings to the congregation.
- Rebecca Parker, a 98-year old member of our congregation has as at Tuesday, 16 June, raised £4,717 by playing the Piano for 100 days in aid of NHS South Lanarkshire.

Pastoral Care

- Supporting Food Bank with referrals and volunteers.
- Our pastoral visiting team has continued with keeping in contact with our members in care homes, hospitals or housebound.
- Couple of funerals and offering pastoral support to those who have been bereaved, telephone, e-mail and posting of customised cards.

- Minister has spoken and reached out to many members and adherents that we have a contact number for or through Facebook messenger, text messages or WhatsApp.
- Sending greeting cards to those in hospital/ isolated and the vulnerable.
- Drop-off and distance blather with members.
- Telephone calls to members and those at work, and others including other ministers.

Worship

- Sunday Worship - We have been prerecording our services for every Sunday which is posted on our website every Sunday morning. This has drawn wider audience including participants as far as Australia.
- Members, both young and old have been helping with reading the Scriptural lessons and taking the intercessory prayers with our organist suppling the gathering songs.
- The Youth church produced a video featuring our children sending their greetings and prayers to the congregation at Easter.
- Posting a wee message from our home's weekly services on Facebook.
- To mark the Pentecost, we produced a special video featuring people from 6 different countries saying the 'Grace' in their different languages.
- Weekly worship and activity programmes for the Youth church and Jesus A Friend For All (JAFFA 2).
- At the start, we were having congregational prayer time and candle lighting every Thursday at 7:30pm. Members were encouraged to use the prayers written by Very Rev. Collin Sinclair (immediate past moderator of the General Assembly)
- Virtual Bible studies (using Zoom platform), focusing on the Book of Acts, which will run for 6 weeks.
- Virtual Praise service on 31 May with about 70 in attendance via Zoom including 4 participants from Nigeria. Another one is scheduled to hold on Sunday, 28 June.

Administration

- Regular communication among the Session teams and clerks of Session.
- Building inspection to check against mouse.
- Discussion with cleaners for the post-Covid 19 church reopening.

Offerings/donations received by Standing Orders, Bank transfers and continued efforts to claim Gift Aid.