

Emerging Church Project Manager Report October 2017 to January 2018

Boys' Brigade

The boys' brigade continues to see growth and this term we are working towards the Muir trophy which this year is all about Moses. It was great to see all the boys except two involved in the nativity play (and poor Victor turned up a week late). I think despite lack of time to practice they did really well and it was great to see so many families in Church. The pantomime at the Cowane centre was another great afternoon.

Lunch Club

As most of you will know Julie Christie has resigned her post as lunch club co-ordinator to take up a post with dial a journey. We have advertised the post and despite having three good applications, all three withdrew before interview. We have now re-advertised the post and hopefully will have someone in place soon. It was great to see Jane Harris at the lunch club last week and we were thankful for her help as in January we have 5 volunteer on holiday. It would be great to see more of the congregation supporting the lunch club. Lunch club continues to be well attended. We had our annual volunteer lunch at the Birds and Bees this year. We had a lovely meal to say thank you to all our volunteers for their hard work throughout the year.

Allan Park House Outreach

Our November meeting was filled with chat and laughter. We had some music and reminiscence and was enjoyed by all. The December meeting was an evening event with the wellbeing choir singing Christmas Carols with tea and mince pies after.

Bairns' Rock

Bairns' Rock continues to be well attended. Laura is doing well in the craft worker post. We continue to struggle for volunteers on a Tuesday but I am pleased to say Denise Welsh has agreed to come along and help. Our afternoon session is now much busier and we now regularly have 20 children in the afternoon. It was encouraging to see so many of our bairns' rock families, past and present, at the nativity event and our Christmas Eve service

Wellbeing Choir

The Wellbeing Choir continues to be popular and in December we performed Christmas Carols at the Bield in Allan Park and also performed a charity concert in the Church alongside the lazy boys. It was a great success and we made £400 for the homeless charity as well as lots of donations of warm clothing. Paula Freck organised this. Amanda Hiddleston our most recent choir member who works for Cairn Housing managed to secure an extra £250 from them as a kind of match funding.

Therapeutic Craft Groups

Karen continues to facilitate the sewing and knitting group on a Monday alongside the more therapeutic arts group on a Wednesday. Friday group will be re-launched soon.

Tea Dances

We have had some great fun at the tea dances. The band is excellent and the food and company are great. The numbers continue to grow but we would still like to see more people come along and enjoy what is a great afternoon. Jane Steele is running these.

Bible Sketchbook Class

Led by Jane Steele we have a small group who meet on a Friday and continue to read and sketch bible scenes. The group continue to grow in ability and confidence.

Bible Studies

Two groups are meeting at the moment. One on a Wednesday evening hosted by Jane and Phil Harris and one on a Monday evening hosted by Jane Steele and led by Ken Laing.

Funds

We have been successful in being chosen as one of the three charities Tesco are supporting in January/February. This is for BB camping and sports equipment. Put your tokens in the tube for 4th Stirling Boys Brigade.

We have also been chosen by the Co-op as one of their three chosen charities to support in early 2018. This is to set up a men's shed. You have to choose Allan Park South Church as your chosen charity for that period at the Wallace Park and Causewayhead shops.

Please if you can support both of these opportunities. It is only for a short term period.

VAF

Volunteer Rock Event was not well attended or supported. Julie put a lot of work into the then and now feature and Karen who displayed all her groups and had interactive sessions going on. We had displays for the BB's, Bairns' Rock and Wellbeing Choir. The event ran all day Friday and Saturday morning.

The second volunteer event will take place on Friday 23rd March & Saturday 24th March. This event will be led by Karen McSorely and

will be coffee morning/afternoon, craft tables and opportunity to find out about our projects that need volunteers.

As part of the fund we have been given money to run a Food Hygiene training day for those of us involved in any way in the kitchen. This will take place on Wednesday 21st February. Details to follow.

150th Events

All the planned events have taken place. The quiz night ran by Karl and Christine Purser was a great success and raised £194 for the Church. The last event was the family nativity and craft morning the Saturday before Christmas which was a great success with the hall being packed and hotdogs going like hot cakes.

Film Club

We have run a few of the film club events with the elderly and are finding that we need to keep to shorter films. We are planning 2 family film afternoons with Laura St John leading in this. We have purchased throws for the couches, beanbags, small tables and cushions all included in the fund application.

Go For It

We have written to go for it with an explanation of our match funding but have not had a response as yet. The projects continue to run with me taking over the Jubilee Lunch Club and outreach on a temporary basis until we have employed someone for the lunch club.

Now is the time for us to apply for a continuation grant which if granted would extend our projects for another two year period. We would need to find match funding but I have identified a fund that

may do that – the Robertson Trust if the Kirk Session agree that this is the way forward.

Women's Little Christmas

After the successful event last year Paula Freck organised another on the 6th January in the Pillar Hall. It was another great evening with around 20 of us enjoying good food and a chat.

Trip to East Kilbride

Around 30 of us set off for East Kilbride on Sunday 17th December to the Tearfund Christmas Concert. It was a wonderful evening of Christmas Carols and songs organised by Jane Steele.

Dementia Friendly Training

Julie from Age Scotland came to us to deliver a basic dementia friendly training session. There were 8 of us in total. It was good basic training so we have invited Julie to come back to us in March to give us more information on how to interact with anyone who is living with dementia and the do's and don't's.

Contact the Elderly

We hosted the Christmas contact the elderly event for all the hosts, volunteers and the service users. It was a lovely afternoon with music from Jim and Ian and food, Santa made an appearance and we finished off with Christmas Carols.

Bubble gum and Fluff

Alistair, Lorna, Klaire, Ian and myself jointly with St Columba's helped deliver the Christmas message to the P5's from the Allan School. It was a great event and it was lovely to see the children enjoying hearing about the birth of Jesus.

New Contracts/Job Description

Together with the personnel sub group we have been looking at all existing contracts and bringing them into line with Church of Scotland requirements. Jane Harris is leading in this and has put in a tremendous amount of work in in the past few weeks.

Walk up Dumyat

We joined the Church of Scotland youth climb up Dumyat before Christmas and despite there being snow it was a great event with lovely food provided by Jim Steele. Even baby Lillie nearly made it to the top. Arryn and Uncle Chris did.

It has been a very busy time with lots going on and many opportunities to have good conversations.