



By the way...

Christmas
2019



LANGBANK COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL



Come along to Langbank Community Christmas Tree Festival on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December from 2pm – 5pm in Langbank Church.

A large number of trees will be displayed in the church, imaginatively decorated by local clubs and organisations, on the theme of a Christmas carol or song.

The Chamber Pot String Quartet, the Langbank Singers and various musicians will provide live music throughout the open weekend, and tea, coffee and mince pies will be served in the church hall.

The entry fee of £3 for adults, £1 for children or £6 for a family ticket, covers the entertainment and refreshments.

This is a community event which we hope will be well supported by villagers. Celebrate Christmas by dropping in anytime, browsing the exhibits whilst listening to the music, and rounding off the afternoon with tea, coffee and mince pies.

The money raised is going towards the church redevelopment, which will turn the church into a hub for greater use by the community, whilst still maintaining a place of worship within the village. Plans have been drawn up and planning permission received. Next is the task of raising the money to see the project become a reality.



CHRISTMAS IN LANGBANK

- Sun Dec 1 - 1st Sunday in Advent (10am)
- Mon Dec 2 - Christmas Drop in Café (2 – 4pm)
- Wed Dec 4 - Christmas Soup and Sandwich Lunch (12.15pm in the village hall)
- Sat Dec 7 - Langbank Village Tree Festival (2 – 5pm) *See above*
- Sun Dec 8 - Langbank Village Tree Festival (2 – 5pm)
- Mon Dec 9 - Finlaystone free delivery of trees *See back page*
- Sat Dec 14 - Langbank Singers carol singing at Finlaystone (12 .15pm)
- Sun Dec 15 - 'Carols by Candlelight' (7pm)
- Thurs Dec 19 - School Christmas Service (1.30pm)
- Sun Dec 22 - Pop up Nativity (10am)
- Tues Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Watch Night Service (11.30pm)
- Sun Dec 29 - Prophecy & Fulfilment Service (10am)



All Welcome!



St James's Handbell Ringers

On October 27th St James's Handbell Ringers treated us to a very enjoyable afternoon of music from the movies. They also gave us lots of interesting information about handbell ringing, and we had the opportunity to try it for ourselves. £165 was raised for the church redevelopment fund

Church News

FROM THE INTERIM MODERATOR.

Dear Friends,

As I take up the responsibility of being Interim Moderator at Langbank, I would like to begin by thanking Jack McHugh as your previous Interim Moderator, for all the work he has done, and welcoming Liz who has agreed to regularly lead the worship services at Langbank, thus restoring that relationship she has had with you in the past.

Have you, like me, wondered where another year has gone? Here we are in the last month of 2019. As well as a General Election, Christmas is coming.

While we may get weary in the run up to Christmas with shopping to do, gifts to buy and invitations to events, we can never tire of reminding ourselves of "*the reason for the season*" and that first Christmas once again. The reading and hearing of God's Word, through the lovely carols that we sing and listen to, point us to the Good News which we are to proclaim, "*A Saviour has been born to you, He is "Christ the Lord"*" (Luke Ch. 2 v11). Christmas and the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ has a message for us all. Yes, even for those who perhaps don't think they can sing so heartily the carols this Christmas, because it has been perhaps a year of difficulty. For Jesus is not only Saviour, he is the Prince of Peace. I would encourage you, if you can, to make time to go to the special Christmas services which will be held.

May you all at Langbank have a peaceful and blessed Christmas and New Year
Rev Stuart C Steell



A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

After my unfortunate disappearance a year ago owing to ill health, it was so nice to be asked back again to Langbank Church to lead worship on a regular basis. So many of the plans that were being made while I was last with you are now reaching fruition and I'm glad to be sharing this new phase with you - as well as looking forward to sharing Christmas and a brand New Year.

But first, we have Advent, and all the hope this season holds. The run-up to Christmas, is a particularly sociable time for the village and a time when Langbank Church specially welcomes all comers to share its warmth. Christmas Trees will feature strongly this year, so the Church will be glowing within, even on darkest of December Sundays - and I hope many of you will take the opportunity of coming to some of the Services over the period. Come and share the glow that lies, not just in the lights, but in the words, in the music and in the infectious uplift that the Holy Spirit always brings when we gather to welcome Jesus to our corner of the world - and perhaps even into a corner of our hearts.

This poem by John Butterfield (shortened for reason of space) captures the journey that many a reluctant churchgoer has experienced during a Christmas Service, and it is food for thought....

We come expecting nothing,
for we have been in this place many times before and we know the routine:
we will sit and listen and sing, and then we will go home again.

We expect nothing, yet part of us – a small part deep within us –
expects something amazing, expects to be awestruck
because part of us still expects to meet God and expects the unexpected.

And however, many times our hopes have been dashed,
our faith shaken, and our belief in the goodness of the world betrayed,
we still hope that today, here in this place, we will meet God, and be touched;
as God breaks through with an eternal message to each one of us:
we are loved, we are important, we matter.

And because of this
we will re-orientate our lives to understand others' needs,
for though the God who calls us to love may be hidden from our sight,
our neighbours can be seen clearly
and we can love them, for they too are precious in God's sight.

May you hear the Angels' song this Christmas.

Liz Geddes

LANGBANK COMMUNITY SURVEY

A huge thank you to everyone who took time to complete and return the Langbank Community Survey.

Once the results have been collated the information can be used to help the community council to identify the village priorities. Other village groups will be able to use the information when determining how best to improve their facilities and/or for making grant applications.

Glasgow City Mission

Thank you to Langbank Parish Church and Primary School for your generous donation of food, and for sharing God's goodness with those affected by homelessness and poverty in Glasgow.

Your donation enables us to give out food parcels to those of our guests who need this. Food donations are also used by our cook to create meals, and enable us to serve tea and coffee to our guests.

Food, whether it's a food parcel, a meal or a tea and biscuit, is often the starting point for our Project Workers and volunteers to build relationships with our guests, and to connect them to our other services, which are designed to help people grow in confidence, develop their skills and move forward in their lives.

Thank you once again for making a difference this harvest.

Jack Geddes



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 31st Jan - Family Beetle Drive 7.30pm. Come along and see if you can be the first to complete your beetle!

Friday 6th Mar - Quiz Night with Sister Andrea 7.30pm. A fun night where you get to show off your knowledge (or not!).

Friday 17th Apr - Fashion Show 7.30pm. Even if you don't need to buy any clothes you need to come for the banter!

Watch out for more details about all these community events taking place in the Village Hall.

This year many people are trying to have a 'Green Christmas'. So just remember that **KINDNESS** is the most valuable gift you can give someone. And it doesn't need any wrapping paper!

WHAT'S HAPPENING

DROP IN CAFE

Please come along to the Church Hall every Monday 2pm to 4pm and enjoy a chat, a cup of tea/coffee and delicious home baking.

Our last Drop-In for this year is on December 2nd, where there will be a large selection of Christmas goodies. The Café recommences on Monday 6 January 2020.

SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCH

Join us in the Village Hall for lunch, on Wednesday 4th December. Enjoy a variety of soups, sandwiches, tea/coffee, a biscuit, chatter and fun. We recommence in 2020 on Wednesday 5th February.

CAMERA CLUB

Meet in the Church Hall, 2nd and 4th Monday in the month at 7.30pm. New members welcome.

PLAYGROUP

Langbank Village Hall (term time) Friday morning, 9.45am to 11.45am. Children 2.5yrs to 5yrs. Contact Caroline – 07958730504

UNDER 3'S

Church Hall (term time), Friday 10am to 11.45am. Contact Kym - 07740334795

YOGA FOR ALL

Langbank Village Hall, Tuesday 7.30pm to 9pm. Recommence Tuesday 7th January 2020. Contact Sara – 07962347950

KEEP FIT

Alyssa will welcome you to METAFIT and CIRCUTS in the Village Hall. Call 07714143545 for further details.

TAP FIT

Langbank Village Hall, Tuesday 6pm – 6.50pm.

LANGBANK SINGERS

Come and join us in the Church Hall on Thursday evening. Contact, Mary 01475 540752.

BRIDGE

Village Hall on Wednesday 7.30pm. New members welcome.

SWI

Village Hall on 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. New members most welcome.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The upper hall of Langbank Church on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. All welcome.



FINLAYSTONE XMAS TREE OFFER



Looking for a real tree this Christmas? Look no further than Finlaystone. We grow the traditional sweet-smelling Norway Spruce and cut them the day before delivery.

Take advantage of **Free delivery** on 9 December to your door in Langbank, and **10% of proceeds** will be donated to the Church by Finlaystone.

Text Arthur on 07802254056 with name, address and tree size and I'll confirm price.

You can still pop up with the family and choose your tree and enjoy the estate in winter.

www.finlaystone.co.uk



CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Boys and girls, here is a Christmas Wordsearch for you to complete and pictures for you to colour in.

Nativity Wordsearch

k	s	b	c	a	n	g	e	l	u
i	m	a	n	g	e	r	j	k	t
n	y	d	r	e	h	p	e	h	s
g	r	e	p	s	v	m	J	u	u
s	v	r	k	g	u	o	d	i	x
r	c	a	g	n	s	s	b	f	u
b	t	t	i	e	o	x	e	k	v
a	z	s	p	h	j	d	u	J	x
d	v	h	l	M	a	r	y	o	p
s	r	s	t	a	b	l	e	n	l



angel donkey Jesus
Joseph kings manger Mary
shepherd stable star

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Langbank Parish Church: Sunday Service - 10.00am

Interim Moderator & Pastoral Care: Rev Stuart Steell tel: 0141 887 2464

Pulpit supply: Rev Liz Geddes tel: 01505 612639

Visit our Website: www.langbankparishchurch.co.uk

Charity No: SC015085