



By the way...

Easter
2026

LOCAL PLACE PLAN

Work continues on the Langbank Local Place plan. Initial consultation was carried out at village events and through letterbox surveys between October and January. The steering group have been working with 'Place at the Table' to produce a document outline and running a consultation event in the village hall on 5th March – thanks to all who attended. The next step is for a draft plan to be made available for further consultation before being submitted to Renfrewshire Council for comment; following this a final plan will be created. This is a great opportunity for Langbank's voice to be heard within the wider RC development plan, so please look out for more information on Langbank Community FB page, website and village noticeboards or email info@langbank-community.com



50:50 PROMS

J S Bach says: *"The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul."* Don't we have such a lovely building with such a wonderful acoustic which makes singing and playing so much easier! All our visiting performers to the Proms have commented on the acoustic, the lighting and the warmth (temperature and welcome equally!).

Renfrew Burgh Band kicked off our Advent Season with a fantastically bright and breezy Christmas-flavoured selection of music. They featured soloists from amongst their numbers, and they were very ably conducted by Ash who also introduced the items played. The Band has been invited back **THIS** Advent Sunday **29th November**, so you have plenty of notice for this one!



The Higham Quartet performed a concert of soundbites from Mendelssohn to Moeran, Britten to Gilbert & Sullivan – that and more, all following on from playing for morning worship. The Quartet will return to play for morning service on **7th June**.

The Organ Recital planned for February hit a glitch because the organ motor has had to have some attention. Now that it is fixed, another date will be arranged for the Recital, so keep an eye on Facebook and website pages and look out for posters appearing around the village.

On **Sunday 26th April**, Bishopton Praise Band will be coming to play for us. They will feature well-known pieces and perhaps some audience-participation as well.

Tickets for each Prom is £5 (children free).

COMING UP



Our annual **Plant Sale** will take place at the end of May. As usual there will be cream teas served in the hall. So, even if you don't need any plants, pop in for a delicious cream tea. Watch the noticeboard and website for more details.

Sunday 21st June is International Making Music Day, so at Langbank we are having a **Taizé** workshop. Come along for a rehearsal from 2.30-4.30; then there will be a "sing through" at 5pm lasting about half an hour. You are welcome to come along to sing; you are equally welcome to come along just to sit and listen and watch; and please do come to the 5pm service.

For the Taizé workshop, it's **DONATIONS** for church refurbishment and/or organ fund.

Church News

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

As we move through the weeks leading up to Easter, I would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone who reads this magazine... whether you are a regular member of Langbank Church, someone connected through family or friendship, or simply curious about faith and community.

Easter stands at the heart of the Christian story. It speaks of hope where there seemed to be none, of light breaking through darkness, and of new life emerging even after loss and uncertainty. These are themes that continue to resonate, whatever our circumstances or beliefs, and they shape much of what we share together as a church at this time of year.

Langbank Church is part of a linked charge with Houston & Killellan Kirk, and this partnership allows us to worship, serve, and grow together. Over Holy Week, services will be shared across our congregations, and you are very welcome to attend any of them, whether in Langbank or Houston & Killellan. Full details of times and locations can be found below.

Our hope is that all who come... long-standing members, occasional attenders, and newcomers alike... will find a genuine welcome, thoughtful worship, and space to reflect. You do not need to have everything worked out to belong here. If you are exploring faith, returning after time away, or simply seeking a moment of stillness, you are welcome.

As Easter approaches, may you know something of hope renewed and life shared. Above all else, be blessed and be a blessing.

Steven

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Mon Mar 30th - Service in Houston & Killellan Church (7pm)

Tues Mar 31st - Service in Houston & Killellan Church (7pm)

Wed Apr 1st - Service in Houston & Killellan Church (7pm)

Thurs Apr 2nd - Maundy Thursday Communion Service in Langbank (7pm)

Fri Apr 3rd - Good Friday Service in Langbank (7pm)

Sun Apr 5th - Easter Sunday Service in Langbank (9.45am) Please bring a flower for the Easter cross.

Everyone will be made very welcome at all of these services.



OUR CHURCH

“The church building in a small village is a focal point, a constant offer of hope and reminder of our spirituality which is irreplaceable.” (source, Life & Work 2022) Let us keep our lovely little church flourishing, even in these difficult times nationally and

globally. You are welcome at any Sunday morning service, 9.45am and the cup of tea thereafter. The Drop-in Café is open every Monday afternoon from 2pm-4pm with the most delicious home-baking and bottomless cups of tea and coffee. The sanctuary is left open if you felt you would like some private peace and quiet at a difficult time in your life. During Holy Week, the church will be open on the evenings of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday as well as Easter Sunday morning.

Our church continues to support 3 children through Compassion UK, and, along with Langbank school and Houston Killellan church, we have a monthly collection for the food bank. If any villagers wish to donate to the food bank, tins and toiletries can be handed into the church any Sunday morning or Monday afternoon.

More News



BOOKWORMS BOUNTY!



We have had an influx of books lately, including some children's books. Come browse and buy! They are on the bookshelves by the Drop-in Café. Just pop a donation into the wee tin and help yourself from what's on offer.

LANGBANK CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

The church is hoping to submit an application for its development project to Presbytery. As you will be aware, this has been a much longed-for plan, and to help promote this, how do **YOU** see the building being used? A wedding venue? A children's party venue? A concert venue? Badminton hall? If you have a brainwave, please jot it down and either hand it in at the Café any Monday afternoon, on a Sunday morning after the service, or email it via the church website.

CHURCH CHOIR



Sir John Rutter says: "A church or a school without a choir is like a body without a soul. Singing lies at the heart of worship and education." We are fortunate at Langbank to have such a large, enthusiastic, and committed choir which provides introits and anthems throughout the year. The congregation enjoys hearing familiar as well as new music week by week.

LIGHT OF THE WORLD "CRAFTERNOON" AT CHRISTMAS

If you can remember away back as far as December, you may recall we had a "Crafternoon" at the church where we had several stalls each making a different Christmas decoration. Christmas Trees, Angels, Robins, Stars, Christingles and Gingerbread Men all featured and at each stall, as we worked, we learnt a little bit about how they came into being. It was lovely to have visitors from within Langbank as well as further afield. Thanks to the Tea-room Team who supplied gingerbread biscuits along with tea and coffee.



WELLY GARDEN

It is once again time to smarten up your falling-apart wellies: give them a lick of paint and then stuff them with plants. Bring them along to the Welly Garden at the side entrance to the church where they will brighten the aspect and bring a smile to any passer-by. If you have left-over flowerpots, why not turn your hand to sculpting them into some fantastic creation? In the past we've had a train, an elephant, a caterpillar, a lighthouse – you can probably dream up even more!



This summer we plan to have a display of sunflowers. We hope lots of people will plant up a sunflower, and, once they have reached about 30cm, will bring them along and place them outside the church. Sunflower seeds will be available at the Drop-in café.

UNDER 3S & PLAYGROUP

Spring is in the air, and Easter is just around the corner. At the church, the Outreach Group has been busy preparing for the important visitors: yes, the Under 3s and Playgroup children are coming along to hear all about the Easter story! There are palm branches to wave, a donkey called Stanley to lead around the church, an egg-hunt, an Easter song to sing and instruments to play and another donkey to decorate. The Team has been making their own Easter bonnets too, so it should be a jolly, happy, colourful affair.



The children enjoyed their Christmas visit to the church. It's always fun to hunt for hidden "treasure" and they all trooped around looking high and low for the sheep, the shepherds' fire, the snowman etc. They jingled their bells with vigour, and they loved hanging their stars on their own little tree (which was kept in prime position at the front of the church throughout Christmas).

These children are the future of Langbank, and it is very special for them to be able to look on the church as a familiar place, and equally special to the church to embrace the next generation.

What's Happening

DROP-IN CAFÉ

The Drop-in Café continues to be popular with villagers. If you haven't popped in yet, please do come along any Monday from 2 – 4pm, and enjoy a cuppa and home baking, and a very warm welcome.

Once a month the café proceeds are donated to charity. So far Marie Curie, A Lorry for Mwandia, Accord Hospice, Breast Cancer Care and Alzheimer's Society have benefitted.



WHAT'S ON in the Church Hall

Monday

2pm to 4pm - drop in café

7.30pm - Langbank Camera Club

(2nd & 4th Mon of month)

Thursday

11 to 12.30pm - Langbank Singers

7.30pm - SWI (3rd Thur of month)

Friday

10 to 11.30am - Under 3s

For hire of church hall contact

langbankcnl@gmail.com

The Annual Village Clean Up will be on **Sunday 17th May at 2pm - 4pm**. Meet at entrance to playing fields or Swingpark.

Get Active Coaching sessions at **MUGA** 6.30 to 8.30pm every Wednesday. Open to all our young folks age 6 to 16.

LSR group had a successful grant application to help fund these sessions for another year.



WHAT'S ON in the Village Hall

Monday

10.30 to 11.30am - Move It or Lose It

7.00 to 8.00pm - Dog Training

Tuesday

9.30 to 10.30 am - Pilates

6.30 to 7.30pm - Zumba

Wednesday

6.00 to 7.00pm - Circuits

7.30pm 2nd Wed of month Community Council.

Please keep up to date with information on the Community FB page and website. Community Council email is info@langbank-community.com

Thursday

10 to 11.15am - Seasonal Flow Yoga

6.15 - 7.15pm - Pilates

Friday

9.30 - 12pm Pre-school Playgroup (ages 3 to 5)

Saturday

9.30 to 10.15am - Mini Kickers

For more details or hall hire see the Village Hall FB page or contact

langbankvillagehall@gmail.com

The Village Hall committee are currently exploring the possibility of installing a large screen/monitor in the hall, which will be a welcome addition to this valuable village facility.



Langbank Bowling Club is a very friendly club open to everyone in the village and surrounding area. If you have never played bowls before or would like to try out a new hobby, and make new friends, why not come along and try this outdoor activity that provides gentle exercise and enjoyment. All you have to do is turn up with flat soled shoes and we will provide bowls and free tuition. You'll be made very welcome, whether you are a beginner or already have some experience. For more information email: williammitchell166@email.com

Langbank Parish Church: Sunday Service – 9.45am

Visit our Website: www.langbankparishchurch.co.uk

Charity No: SC015085

Contact: Rev Steven Owens, sowens@churchofscotland.org.uk

tel: 07578128980