



# St Columba's Parish Church

## Newsletter

### Winter 2024



#### Our Hall: Lauren Hussain

St Columba's Church Hall is a large hall and is ideal for children's birthday parties as you can fit a large bouncy castle in it.

It is also wheelchair friendly and has toilet facilities including an easily accessible disabled toilet and baby changing facility.

There are also kitchen facilities that can be used with the hire of the hall.

The cost of hire is £10 per hour.

If you wish any further information, please send us an email.

#### Contact Details

For more information, please visit our website or send us an email, details below:



Church and Hall:

Lainshaw Street, Stewarton KA3 5BU



[stewartonstcolumbas@gmail.com](mailto:stewartonstcolumbas@gmail.com)



<https://stewartonstcolumbas.org>

This Christmas card comes to you with the best wishes of St. Columba's Church.

The greeting on another Christmas card goes like this:

"Christmas is just plain weird. What other time of year do you sit around staring at a dead tree in your living room and eat sweets out of your socks."

There are indeed some things about Christmas that are pretty weird. A virgin teenager becoming pregnant, a baby who would save the world from its sins, a God who wanted to become a human being. That is some pretty weird stuff. To us, the supernatural will always seem odd. As one person has said, "If miracles happened all the time, we would have called them ordinaries."

If we think the events of Christmas seem strange, think what it must have been like for the shepherds.

"I bring YOU good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to YOU. This will be a sign to YOU. YOU will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

The angel's message to the shepherds was that this baby is YOUR Savior, YOUR King, YOUR Christ, YOUR gift – from God to you.

These shepherds weren't people out of the ordinary. Their holiness hadn't earned them this special privilege of being the first to hear the news. God wanted them to see the incredibly personal nature of this Christmas gift and he wants us to see it too. They were just people – and God wants people like us to know how personal this gift really is.

When we wrap our presents, we will put little tags on them. To Jean from Matthew. To Mum from Jean. That way when we pass out the presents it's easy to see who a gift is from.

Jesus is a gift to YOU – from God. God's very special and personal gift of grace, forgiveness, healing, peace, hope, direction, promise, eternity – to you.

May you receive this gift and treasure it in your hearts giving thanks to God for all that he given.

I hope that you will receive this gift and have a very blessed Christmas.

*Bill Hewitt*

## WHAT'S ON

<b>Sunday Worship</b>	11.00 am
<b>Children's Sunday Club</b>	11.00 am
<b>Sunday Café</b>	after morning service
<b>Zumbini</b> Eilidh MacFarlane	Monday 9.30 am – 11.30 am in the church hall
<b>Prayer Group</b>	Monday 1.30pm – 3.30 pm in the church hall
<b>Keyboard Lessons</b>	Monday 4.00 pm – 5.00 pm Tuesday 4.30 pm – 5.30 pm
<b>Guild</b> Sheila McGill	Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 2.00 pm in the church hall
<b>Friendship &amp; Faith</b> Ruth Nicol	Last Tuesday of the month in the church hall
<b>Chess Club</b> John Montgomery	Tuesday 7.00 pm in the church hall
<b>Health Checks</b>	Wed 15 January: 10.45 am – 11.45 am Wed 12 February: 10.45 am – 11.45 am Wed 12 March: 10.45am – 11.45 am
<b>Badminton Club</b>	Wednesday 2.00 pm in the church hall
<b>Boys' Brigade</b> Willie Campbell	<b>Anchor Boys</b> (P1-P3) Wed 6.00 pm – 7.00 pm in the church hall <b>Junior Section</b> (P4-P6) Wed 7.00 pm – 8.45 pm in the church hall
<b>Toddler Group</b> Margaret Smith	Thursday 10.00 am – 11.30 am in the church hall for pre-nursery children – cost £1.50

## Feisty Over Fifties

Lesley Bell

Every 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday 2.00 pm in the church hall  
(October - August)

## Boys Brigade

Willie Campbell

**Company Section** (P7 and above)

Friday 7.30 pm – 10.00 pm

The Centre, Standalane, Stewarton

## Messy Church

Lauren Hussain

Saturday 25 January: 3.30 pm – 5.00 pm

Saturday 22 February: 3.30 pm – 5.00 pm

For children aged 3 years – P7

## SPECIAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Saturday 14 December

Nativity Escape Room – Church Hall – 1.30 pm – 4.30 pm

### Saturday 21 December

Churches together Carol Singing at Sainsbury's

11.00 am – 12.00 noon and 2.00 pm – 3.00 pm

### Sunday 22 December

St Columba's Church Nativity Service – 11.00 am

followed by mince pies in the church hall

### Tuesday 24 December

St Columba's Church all-age Christmas Eve family Service – 6.30 pm

Stewarton's Watchnight Service – John Knox Church – 11.15 pm

### Wednesday 25 December

St Columba's Church Christmas Day Service – 11.00 am

### Looking forward to 2025

Saturday 29 March – Spring event and family fun day

Sunday 18 April – Good Friday Service

Sunday 20 April – Easter Sunday Service

