

Carriden Parish Church

Together in Spirit

June 2023



Dear Friends,

"I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers" Ephesians 1:16

If you would like to make contact, please refer to the church website www.carridenchurch.co.uk, or contact your elder. If you know of anyone else who would like a paper copy of the newsletter, please contact barbara@blackbourn.co.uk Please get in touch if you need support or would like us to provide Church Family news and feel free to forward this on to friends and family.

Contact details for Rev. David Wandrum, our Locum Minister/ Interim Moderator:

Home: 01236 723288 or Mobile 0779 266 4503 or email david.wandrum@btinternet.com

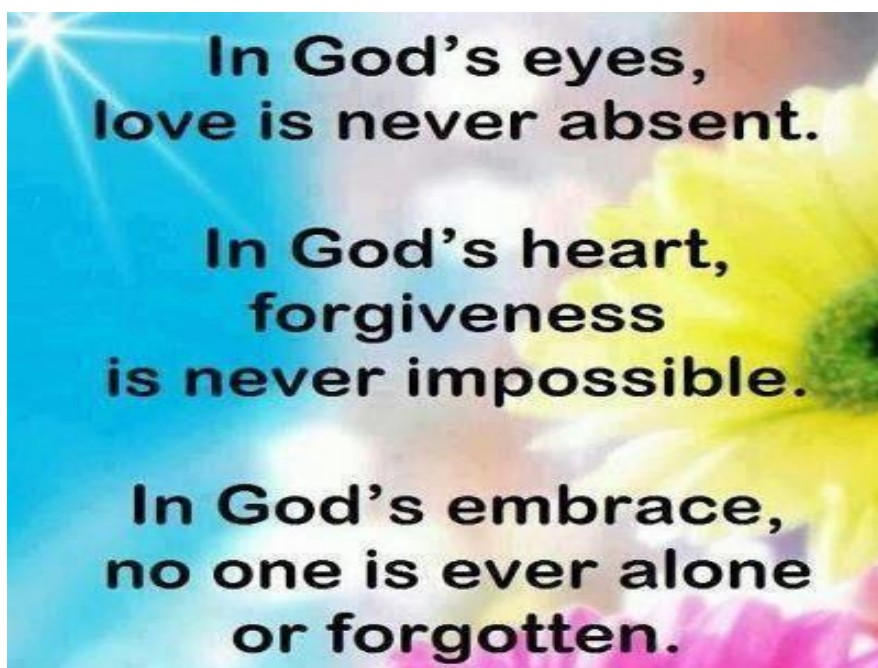
Family News

Bereavements

Thomas Ellis	09 March 23
Janice Stanley Williamson	09 March 23
William Graham	19 March 23
William Frater	03 May 23
Grace Strachen Thorne	19 May 23
James (Curly) Robertson	14 June 23



Storehouse are always happy to receive donations of food to help those who are struggling to feed their families in these difficult times of rising prices. Please remember them when you are doing your shopping and buy a little something extra to help someone less fortunate and brighten their day.



Uncertainties ?

With everything that's happening in the world today it's obvious that we live in uncertain, unsettled times, and Carriden Church, having opted for Dissolution, also faces uncertain times.

As far as the buildings are concerned one example of this uncertainty is that over the past few months I've heard "confirmed" news that when Carriden Parish Church finally closes it will be sold to Cuthill's Funeral Directors, sold for redevelopment or sold to be turned into flats.

No one knows what will happen to the church building. The bottom line is that, when Carriden unfortunately closes its doors for the last time, the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland will decide what happens to the Church building.

However what happens to the buildings is only one part of the Dissolution process. So, as I write this on the 24th June, what is happening ?

Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale have now confirmed that their Mission Plan Action Group is calling Kirk Session meetings at 2pm on Wednesday 19th July and Monday 31st July.

The first meeting with the Kirk Session will discuss the Basis of Dissolution, much of which is legally proscribed, at which the Kirk Session can make their views known regarding what happens to the Church funds and may also discuss the date when the church closes.

The second meeting with the Kirk Session is when they take a formal vote, agreeing the draft Basis of Dissolution, which is to be presented to the congregation allowing members and adherents to vote for or against the basis of dissolution.

A Congregational meeting to vote on the Basis of Dissolution is likely to be called at 7.00pm on Monday 14th August.

So when facing changing circumstancesour challenge when facing uncertainty is to keep faith in God who has faith in you.

You may not see the way ahead in your Christian life, but I would bring to you Jesus words of comfort and assurance, recorded in Matthew's gospel, Ch28:18-20, which he gave in his great commission to his disciples, " All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always , to the very end of the age"

Jesus words, " I am with you always, to the very end of the age", bring us Certainty in an age of uncertainty. They bring us direction in an age of doubt. They bring us the certainty of a future, which is different, but which remains rooted in the love God has for you.

May God give you peace.

With every blessing,

David Wandrum