



Dear Friends

The nativity story is a powerful reminder of God's love and the joy that Christ's birth brings to the world. By reflecting on how the arrival of Jesus brought hope to **all** people, we deepen our understanding of God's faithfulness.

God is not remote. He came down to join us. And not as a king on a throne. He was not born in a private hospital or a palace, but a lowly stable. He was conceived by an unmarried teenager and soon to become a refugee.

He knows what it is like to be human, to struggle and to suffer. As a result, he can understand us, support us, and guide us through life.

As we grasp the magnitude of this moment – God coming to earth as a child to save humanity – the joy of the nativity story fills us with renewed faith, knowing that God's love is for **everyone**. We can trust in God's plan for our lives

Church Family News

We remember those in our church family who have sadly died in the last few weeks, and give thanks to God for them and for their friendship and service over so many years:

Mrs Betty Dunn, Mr Phil Webb, Mrs Elizabeth McWhirter and Mr Jack Keys

We send our love and prayers to their families and ask that God's peace and comfort will surround them in these days.

On Sunday 2nd November we shared in the celebration of Lennox Stewart's baptism. We ask God's blessing on Lennox, his mum Annabel and dad Calum and welcome him into the church family.



'Do this in memory of me'

We will share Communion on Sunday 7th December at 11.00am.

The service will be led by Rev Leslie Grieve. If you are watching at home please have some bread and wine with you.

Worship for Advent and Christmas

'Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord' Luke 2:11

Sunday 30th November: 11.00am Rev Donald Macleod.

We will welcome 4 young people into membership of Lenzie Union

Sunday 7th December 11.00am Rev Leslie Grieve

We will share Communion together

Sunday 14th December 11.00am Rev John Campbell

Service of Lessons and Carols

Sunday 21st December 11.00am Family Nativity Service

Kim and the children and young people will lead our service

The Great Invitation

Wednesday 24th December 6.00pm Family service for Christmas Eve

Lenzie Scouts will bring the Bethlehem Peace Light

Wednesday 24th December 11.30pm Joint Watchnight Service in Lenzie Old Parish

Led by Rev Julie Hearty. Refreshments from 11pm in the hall.

Thursday 25th December 11.00am Christmas Day Celebration

Joint family service in Lenzie Union led by the elders.

Sunday 28th December 11.00am Mr David Nicholson

Joint service in Lenzie Union.

Christmas Events at Lenzie Union

God loves the world so much that he came right into the midst of human life in his Son Jesus. And at Christmas we get to celebrate and share the wonder of all this!

The **Christmas Experience**, a multimedia drama, will be held on 9th, 10th and 11th December when adults from the local churches will act as angels and shepherds and wise men to tell the Christmas story to almost 200 pupils from Millersneuk, Lenzie Meadow and Woodland View schools. We'll open this to the public too on Wednesday 10th in the morning and evening. We hope you can come along and share in this yourselves!

Lenzie Nativity Trail.....Spot the knitted animals in Lenzie shops this Advent. The sheep, donkeys and camels will be in the windows from the beginning of December. Trail forms will be available through the Primary Schools, Lenzie Union church and website (lenzieunion.org) and in some shops. Find the names of the animals, fill in the form and come along to....

Bethlehem....on Saturday 13th December from 4.00pm till 5.30pm in the church. Make a Christingle and crafts, visit the stable and hear the Christmas Story, see the drama and enjoy some games and hot drinks. Everyone welcome! Hope to see you there!



Christmas Experience Drama Lenzie Union Church



**Open to the public
All welcome**

**Wednesday 10 December
30 minute slots**

| Morning | Evening |
|----------------|----------------|
| 9.45 | 6.30 |
| 11.00 | 7.00 |
| 11.30 | 7.30 |

Experience the joy of the first Christmas!

Charity No. SC015287

You are warmly invited to.....

Messy Church
at Lenzie Union
Saturday 6th December
4pm - 5pm
a fun filled hour
for children and adults

Messy Church

omalleydom@yahoo.co.uk

Messy Church is part of The Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF) Charity Reg: 233280 CHARITY NO. SC013287

Lenzie Loves Lego



Saturday
6th December

**** 10.30 to 11.30am ****

Lenzie Union Old Hall

Build what you fancy

Please bring an adult

And coffee, tea, biscuits and
juice will be provided for lego
lovers of all ages.

Watch a short Lego video

For more information contact
omalleydom@yahoo.co.uk

Lodging House Mission

Christmas Events

1.00pm 3rd December

Christmas Panto – Book Early

A Glasgow Life Production

2.00 pm 16th December

Christmas Carol Service

With Mission Voices

***Christmas Singing Group.** It would be great to have a singing group for the Lessons and Carols service on 14th December. If you enjoy singing, then we will meet to practice in the transept after the service on Sunday 30th November and 7th December and at 10.00am on Sunday 14th December.*



In Double knitting wool cast on 40 stitches. Knit 1 row in 2 plain, 2 purl, and then continue until it is 25 inches long. In Chunky wool cast on a few stitches less, 35 stitches. When finished please give to D. O'Malley or M. Reid. For LHM neck scarf



Margaret's blanket of many colours. Now with LHM



Gillian Drain (Lenzie Old) and Katy Angus (Lenzie Union) had a very special engagement last week when they sang in the Albert Hall at the Royal Variety Performance in front of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Along with over 300 amateur musical theatre performers, and the London and Paris professional casts, they were part of the special celebrations for the 40th anniversary of 'Les Miserables'. It was an 'awesome' experience, and they were both very proud to be a part of it

Thank you for all the ring pulls collected for the Purple Community Fund in the Philippines, Unfortunately there was a fire at PCF and a lot of their stock was badly damaged, they also lost a lot of ring pulls. Please keep collecting the ring pulls as they are used to produce eco-friendly fashion items including jewellery, handbags etc. This helps the poorest people in the Philippines to earn a living and look after their families.

Janet Dickson.

Lenzie Union Parish Church Guild. *Our first afternoon session is on Monday, 1st December 2025 at 2.00pm until 4.00pm we are getting into the Christmas Spirit with some FUN Christmas Activities. Kenneth MacLeod is joining us on the piano to help us sing some well-known Christmas songs and we will enjoy a few wee Christmas crafts from our past! We will have some Christmas cheer with Tea/Coffee and Mince pies etc. All welcome.*

The Guild restarts on **Monday 5th January** at 2.00pm with our popular **Bring, Buy, and Blether.**

Do you like playing Chess? Mike Hooper played chess with John, a deafblind man every Monday morning for almost 20 years. Mike is now in a care home and is no longer able to do so and John misses this weekly game. He would very much like to find another person or two who would like to play chess weekly or fortnightly. The chess takes place in Deafblind Scotland's building so if you live in Lenzie or Kirkintilloch there is little travel involved. John is a profoundly deaf sign language user and has a guide/communicator with him for the 1.5 hours long chess session. John lives alone and has been playing chess since I met him 30 years ago. It is his only hobby. He is pretty good at it and it would be really good to find someone who would be interested in taking on this voluntary work. Please speak to Drena O'Malley for more information in the first instance. 07774192659. Thank you

The Big Quiz - a Big Success!

A great night in a relaxed atmosphere started well with us acknowledging the dedicated faithful service of Janet Dickson, our Tearfund representative for over 40 years. The Quiz itself was very close, well done to the 3 ladies from LOP, who formed a joint team with 2 friends from LUPC and were 1 point ahead of the rest!

Just over £500 was raised for Tearfund via Lenzie Union and a total of £79,000 across the UK (so far). Impressive figures - thank you to everyone who contributed.

1st Lenzie Girls' Brigade has had a busy start to our 50th anniversary year. As part of our service topic, we planted bulbs in the memorial gardens on Victoria Road and put up a plaque to commemorate the company. We would like to thank Coda Estates for their continued support and for funding the spring bulbs. We are celebrating the 50th anniversary with an afternoon tea in the church hall on Sunday 22nd February 2026 from 2pm to 4pm. Please email 1stlenziegb23@gmail.com to reserve a place.

Our educational and physical topics are the Commonwealth Games and we have had fun learning about the Commonwealth and looking at the flags, foods, cultures and traditions of India, Malaysia and Vanuatu. We tried some sports like boccia (bowls), relay races and badminton. A real highlight was a boxing exercise session with 2018 welterweight champion Ally Black – the girls enjoyed trying on the boxing training gloves and holding Ally's championship belt.

Every year we have a Fairtrade evening with Marian and Fiona which is a really popular evening for the girls with a video and crafts.

Our spiritual topic this year is the fruits of the spirit and Kim is leading us through these. We have also enjoyed trying actual fruits to represent each fruit of the spirit. You will see our 'fruits' on the wall of the New Hall.

Although the joint GB and BB Nethy Bridge trip was cut short by a power cut at the Abernethy Centre, the girls still enjoyed the experience and both the BB and GB showed great spirit and resilience in overcoming the difficulties due to the lack of electricity. Thanks to Hugh Wright for organising the weekend.

We are looking forward to our next few evenings as Christmas approaches. We have baking at home with Rhona, Christmas crafts, a Christmas movie night and our Christmas party!

Afternoon Tea

Join us to celebrate the 50th Anniversary
of 1st Lenzie Girls' Brigade

From 2pm till 4pm

**Sunday
22nd February
2026**

At Lenzie Union New Hall
Cost £15

To book a place email:
1stlenziegb23@gmail.com



The 2025/26 session is well under way with 15 boys in Anchor Boys, 14 in Junior Section and 17 in Company Section, all meeting in the halls on a Friday evening.

Junior Section boys have played in a 7 a side football competition at the Toryglen Sports Centre against JS teams from other companies from Glasgow and surrounding areas. They played very well for the first time together and were delighted to win three matches, draw one and only lose two.

The BB/GB enrolment service was held on Sunday 26th October. We were able to parade from Lenzie Station to the church and return albeit without a band.

Company Section have entered two teams in the U.K. National Chess Competition and one in Masterteam. Our 'A' chess team (currently Scottish champions) were given a walkover in the first round and then defeated 268th Glasgow Company (Bishopbriggs) 6-1 in the second round. The 'B' team all playing for the first time unfortunately lost in the first round at 2nd Polmont. The Masterteam competition was very tough with some very difficult questions. Regrettably we were not in the top two that qualified from the first round staged at 1st Bearsden Company. Unfortunately, we are unable to defend our title of 5 a side under 15 football U.K. champions, as most of that team are now over age and there were not enough younger boys able to play.

Our joint outdoor activity weekend with the Girls' Brigade at the Abernethy Centre, Nethy Bridge unfortunately suffered at the hands of Storm Amy. We travelled as scheduled on the Friday evening without issues until we were 3 miles from the centre. After clearance of two trees and a lamppost blocking the road, we arrived an hour later than expected at the centre, only to find yet another tree blocking the entrance. Bags were carried up the driveway, to learn that the centre had within the last 10 minutes lost all power. As the electricity company did not expect power to be restored until the Monday, we had no alternative other than to return home on Saturday. Fortunately, the coach company were able to send a coach for us. Very graciously Abernethy Trust refunded our costs in full.

A few activities were available on the Saturday morning – archery, orienteering and the climbing wall. All other activities were not possible for safety reasons as they take place in forested areas.

As usual we will be delivering Christmas cards in **Lenzie, Auchinloch and Woodilee only**. The cost will be **40p per card**, all proceeds going to charity. **Latest drop off time is 1200 hrs on Friday 12th December**. Collection boxes are in the vestibule of the New Hall and the Church. **Please ensure that cards are fully and correctly addressed.**

Green Issues for your information

Residents, Community Groups, Organisations, Workers and Businesses across East Dunbartonshire – have a say and can help to make a world of difference. The Council is seeking views on its draft Climate Action Plan (CAP) between 13 October and 19 December 2025. Have your say – complete an online survey We want to hear your thoughts on the draft Climate Action plan. Main Survey Please fill in the main survey which relates to the summary/guide below and the draft Climate Action Plan. Go to

<https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/about/our-council/consultations/draft-climate-action-plan-consultation/>

Climate Change is Happening. How Can Your Community Respond?

Advice from the website Adaptation Scotland <https://adaptation.scot/>

Climate change is impacting your homes and neighbourhoods, from storm damage in the winter, to overheating in the summer

Adaptation involves us preparing for both extreme weather such as storms floods, heatwaves droughts heavy snowfall, and more gradual changes such as when growing seasons start and end.

No matter what kind of community you are in, there are actions you can take to build resilience, prepare for climate change, and make your area healthier, safer, and more comfortable for people and wildlife.

A good place to start is preparing a pack in case severe storms cause a long-term power cut. Have enough candles and tinned foods to last up to 3 days. You can add other things to the pack as you wish like space blankets to keep warm and a power bank (rechargeable battery) to keep your phone working.



In February 2025 Boots launched their Blisterpack Recycling

scheme and the Boots in Sauchiehall street close to Waterstones has a collection box (pictured) for Blisterpacks. You can just put your empty Blisterpacks in the box or if you take in 5 packs and have a Boots Advantage card and the Recycle at Boots App you can get points on your card. The Boots in Lenzie and Kirkintilloch will be asked if they will take a box so local people don't have to travel into Glasgow to recycle their packs. You can also use the Recycle at Boots App with an Advantage card and make points recycling other items that can't be recycled at home. The Recycle at Boots app will help by validating your items or at advising if they are not eligible for a reward within 24h of logging. For more information go to

<https://www.boots.com/boots-recycling-scheme?srltid=AfmBOorEptheBA4v8dLtS9JBA9LV34uoyawBNPI-hTIDx0rXUO7prX9D>

Lodging House Mission has provided a list of items they could use for Christmas Gifts. Please let Eric know if you have any of these items you wish to donate. We currently have 9 of the neck warmer scarves.



| Items we could use for Christmas Gifts We would love for everyone who comes to us to have something in their Christmas bag that they would like, rather than just what they need. | |
|--|---|
| Hat, Scarf and Gloves (preferably a set) Men's Hoodie Men's Jogging trousers Women's Hoodies Woman's Leggings Women's and Men's Socks Men's Boxer shorts Women's underwear Men's Pyjamas Women's Pyjamas Toiletry Gift Sets for both men and women Gift Vouchers (Primark, Greggs, Sports Shop) Diary/Stationary set Jigsaw Puzzle/Game | One Size S, M, L, XL S, M, L, XL S, M, L S, M, L Any size All sizes All sizes S, M, L, XL S, M, L N/A Any amount you feel comfortable with |
| Additional Treats As Part of Christmas Gift We would love to provide a bag of goodies to enjoy over the festive period. | Toiletries We Need Generally These are things we provide daily. |
| Juice (fizzy) Crisps Nuts Popcorn Sweets Bars of chocolate Selection boxes Advent Calanders Mince Pies Cakes Any festive treat that does not contain alcohol | Hairbrushes Soap Shower Gel Shampoo Razors Shaving Foam Toothpaste Wet Wipes Deodorant Moisturiser |
| Miscellaneous Items These are wee extras that would made a big difference. | |
| Biro pens Bingo pens Bingo books Thermal underwear Handwarmers (emergency type) | White board pens Phone charging wire for any phone Mobile phone power pack charger Old mobile phones* |

* This is not something we would give out regularly, however we do have people who would benefit from a mobile phone.