

thegoodneighbour

SEPTEMBER 2026



Living our **faith** by our **actions**



GreenbankParish
CHURCH

at the heart of the **community**

Parish Register

DEATHS

Friday 7th August 2026

Mrs Rachel MacKay of Clarkston

NEW MEMBERS

On 2nd August, we were pleased to welcome Mrs Lynda Clark as a new member of Greenbank Church, by profession of faith. Since the start of 2026, we have also welcomed Mr Jed Millar and Mrs Kirsty Macphee by profession of faith, and Mrs Kristina Macleod, Mrs Fiona Sweeney, Mr Robin Gourlay and Mrs Lesley Burgess by transfer and resolution of the Kirk Session.

We are delighted to warmly welcome all of our new members to the congregation, and hope you feel part of the Greenbank family.

PULPIT DIARY

Sunday 6th September	10.30am	Worship with Sunday Club
Sunday 14th September	10.30am	Worship with Sunday Club
Sunday 20th September	10.30am	Worship with Sunday Club
Sunday 27th September	10.30am	Family Worship



FLOWER LISTS FOR SEPTEMBER

Communion Table

6th September	Diane Adam
13th September	Doreen Cunningham
20th September	Helen Cochrane
27th September	Jane Livingston



The sheets for 2026 flower lists are on the windowsills in the transept. You can put your name down to put flowers on the Communion Table or on the side windows. A member of the flower committee will contact you during the week prior to your date.

With thanks,
Elizabeth Cross

September 2026

Dear friends,

Over recent Sundays we have been exploring what it means for us to discern the purposes of God and to live rightly. On Sunday 9th August I suggested that we do this as individuals and we also do this together as a congregation and as part of the Church of Scotland. Every time the Kirk Session meets it seeks collectively to discern the will of God for this congregation and the right path forward.



As spiritual leaders of the congregation elders know that they don't come to a Kirk Session meeting to express their own opinion or vote for what they want. They come primarily to listen. To listen to the insights each one may bring, and to listen for the still small voice of God speaking through that, prompting them to take the right path.

It is a wonderful privilege to be part of that process which is so very different from anything we may do in the secular world. We come together in the courts of the church, whether that is our Greenbank Kirk Session, or Glasgow Presbytery, or our national General Assembly, to discern the will of God and to choose the right path for the church.

And you know this congregation has an exceptional Kirk Session in that regard, full of faithful dedicated elders who have travelled far in their faith journey and taken many risky steps in response to the call of Jesus. Whether it is about the Legacy Project or the work with Presbytery to find the way ahead in a Union and call a Parish Minister, I'm sure I speak for us all when I say that we want to thank each one of our elders for all they do.

At the Kirk Session meeting held after worship on Sunday 9th August the Basis of Union document which set out terms of the proposed Union with Busby Church was accepted. The way ahead from here involves Busby Kirk Session as well as further consideration by Glasgow Presbytery. At some stage fairly soon, we expect to hear news of a date for a congregational vote to take place.

Please do keep this process in your prayers and, when the date for the congregational vote is announced, come along as you are able. Regular updates will be given as appropriate at Sunday worship, through emails and through this Good Neighbour magazine.

Please be assured that as we journey together along this path you will be kept up to date with progress towards the much hoped for day when permission will be given to call a Parish Minister. In the meantime, I feel very privileged and blessed to be alongside you as your Interim Minister and Locum.

With love and blessings,

Reverend Ruth Halley
(Interim Moderator and Locum Minister)

Prayer Diary

"There are flowers enough in the summer-time,
More flowers than I can remember -
But none with the purple, gold, and red
That dye the flowers of September!
The gorgeous flowers of September!
And the sun looks through
A clearer blue,
And the moon at night
Sheds a clearer light
On the beautiful flowers of September!"
(excerpt from 'September'-Mary Howitt)

For once in a way we've been thankful for our Scottish weather, as our southern neighbours struggle in a heatwave, and the land becomes dry and brown. It's been good to have a spell of warm sunny days, and rain to keep everything fresh, though it would be better if we could arrange them in the order we wanted.

The soaring temperatures this summer have caused all sorts of problems. Pray for anyone who makes a living from the land, as they've struggled to keep crops healthy. Pray for everyone affected by wildfires, some of whom have lost everything. Ask that people take health warnings seriously, as many countries experience higher temperatures which we in this country are not used to.

Ask that our young people are settling in to a new year at school, and that it is a good year for them.

Ask that our new annexe will be ready for us to use soon. I know we're all dying to get a good look at it. And ask that our upcoming union with Busby church will provide us all with new opportunities as we start to work together and get to know each other. This is a hard time for everyone with so many readjustments coming down the road, and we will need to pray for patience and understanding and a willingness to compromise.

'O God, our refuge and strength,
our help in times of trouble,
have mercy on the lands where the Earth has been ravaged.
Have mercy on the lands where the weather has destroyed livelihoods.
Prosper those who rebuild houses,
and strengthen those who rebuild hope.
Amen'

(prayer from Christian Aid, Faith in action)

Gillian Foy
Prayer Promoter

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you need prayer for yourself, a loved one or a friend, requests can be sent to the Prayer Promoter, Gillian Foy, via the church office at office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk. Those for whom prayers are requested will be prayed for throughout the following month by members of the Prayer Group. Anyone who would like a copy of the prayer list, in order to pray for those on it, should contact Gillian.

What's On

SATURDAY MORNING BOOK CLUB

Our next meeting will be at 10.00am on **Saturday 5th September** in the manse, when we will be looking at Timothy Keller's book, *'Hope in Times of Fear'*. We will be looking at Chapter 6, *'Personal Hope: 1'*. New members will be made very welcome. For more information contact Ronnie McNeill or the church office.

THE GUILD

On **Wednesday 7th October**, Greenbank Guild will begin their 120th Session. This is a wonderful record and we very much hope that we will be able to continue for a few more years. The Guild has always played a major role in Greenbank life and we would like to see this continue. Please, ladies and gentlemen, give serious consideration to coming along on a Wednesday afternoon and joining our fellowship. More details of where we will be meeting and what we will be doing will be revealed next month. Committee members are reminded of the meeting on Wednesday 9th September at 2pm.

Enid Dron
Secretary

TIME OUT

It seems like the Summer has flown by and we're now getting ready for our new syllabus to begin. The Summer meetings went well, the weather was kind to us as we managed a couple of meetings in the garden. We finished our Summer meetings with a dinner in Monteiths.

We start our next session on **Thursday 3rd September** with a cheese and wine evening, BYOB, cheese and nibbles will be supplied. The next meeting is **17th September**, a craft night designing a tote bag.

We meet every alternate Thursday at 7.30pm. We are currently meeting in the manse but hopefully soon be meeting in the new halls. We always welcome new members.

Elaine Carr

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHOIR

The Clarkston Community Choir return after the summer break, beginning weekly rehearsals from **2nd September**. They rehearse each week on a Wednesday evening from 7.30pm-9.30pm in Greenbank Parish Church halls (note that we will meet in Busby church during September), and will be preparing for a busy season of concerts in December, including their big charity concert finale, complete with 13-piece orchestra, at Greenbank Parish Church on 18th December. The group is very friendly and welcoming, open to anyone with an interest in singing - and with no auditions or previous musical/music reading experience required! For more info, pop along to a rehearsal on a Wednesday night or get in touch with us at: clarkstoncommunitychoir@gmail.com.

CHRIS HOY TOUR DE 4 . . . FOR CARA

Training is going well for the Sir Chris Hoy "Tour de 4" 90km cycle ride on the 6th of September, which Rory and Graham Hood are completing in memory of Cara and to raise funds for Brain Tumour Research ([GoFundMe page is here, if you would like to donate](#)). Cancer of the brain is the most lethal form of cancer in people under the age of 40, and more needs to be done in the UK to research and understand the causes and eventually find an effective cure.

Thank you,
Rory and Graham Hood



BUSHIDO KARATE CLUB

Our classes continued throughout the summer, which is important for our students who are training at such a high level.



Coaching Course

Our Child Protection Officer, Donald Cowey, along with our younger coaches, attended a special coaching course designed specifically for 13–15-year-old Black Belts. The course was run by East Renfrewshire Council to help develop coaches for the future.

All four have been coaching at the club, and the feedback from our younger students who have been coached by them has been extremely positive. It is fantastic to see our young Black Belts developing their coaching skills and giving something back to the club.

At the end of May, a number of our students attended a course run by our Association, where several Scottish Internationalists took the class. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to learn from some of the very best.

We also had a great experience when we held a Bioenergy class, which focused on breathing techniques, control and the benefits of using breathing to improve both physical and mental performance.

Our very own Senior Coach, Adrian Hudson, while on holiday in his beloved Donegal, was a guest instructor at a local karate club, spreading the Bushido name far and wide. It was great to see Adrian continuing to share his knowledge and experience while representing the club.

Our club continues to develop, with our Weapons class proving very popular.

Coming up in September, we have a number of special classes being run by our very own Alasdair Strokosch, a 3rd Dan Black Belt and Scottish Rugby Internationalist, along with our Senior Coach, David Sibbald. They will be passing on their skills in grappling and techniques to help you get out of trouble should you ever find yourself on the ground in a confrontation.

Finally, we are currently preparing for the Association Kata Competition in October, as well as the Association Senior Black Belt Grading in November, where we have a number of students being put forward. These are important events for our students and a great opportunity for them to demonstrate the skills and dedication they have developed through their training.

There is lots happening at Bushido Karate Club, and we are delighted to continue providing our students with opportunities to learn, develop and challenge themselves.

Best wishes,
John Elliot



Adrian Hudson in Donegal

HALL HIRE

Greenbank Church Halls will not be available to hire for children's parties at this time.

News and Updates



DONATIONS for the LHM can be put on the trolley in the church vestibule on Sunday mornings and in the box in the manse hallway during office hours. **At the moment tinned tomatoes, long life milk, pot/packet noodles, small salt and peppers for the tables, vegetable oil/olive oil and brown sauce are particularly requested. Donations of disposable razors and new male boxer shorts (small, medium and large sizes) are also needed.**

Envelopes are also available for donations of money. Please complete your details on the envelope (so that Gift Aid can be claimed if relevant and your donation can be acknowledged) and either hand to me or place in an offering bag during the service. Please do not leave these envelopes on the trolley or in the box. Donations can also be made online at www.lhm360.org/donate. All donations are very much appreciated.

Our annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service takes place on 4th October. Donations of food and money will be given to the LHM. Further details will be available in due course.

LHM staff and guests were shocked and saddened at the sudden death on 18th May of their cook, Archie Sharp, who had worked there for 44 years. His funeral service was held on 30 June at the LHM, followed by a short service of committal at the Linn Crematorium. Afterwards Archie's family, friends, colleagues, volunteers and members of the community went back to the LHM to share memories and stories about Archie's life. His kindness, sense of humour and dedication to the LHM will not be forgotten.

3720 meals were provided in May, 3982 in June and July was the busiest month ever recorded with 4373 meals.

The LHM relies on volunteers to help provide all the services that they do. To celebrate Volunteers' Week the Oregano and Eagle Lodge restaurant in Bishopbriggs provided a wonderful dinner for the LHM volunteers in recognition of their hard work and commitment. The restaurant also provides lunch one day every month at the LHM.

The LHM is looking for new volunteers to support the service by working in the kitchen, serving meals or being part of the activities. If this is something you feel you might like to do, please get in touch with the LHM on 0141 552 0285.



The LHM is delighted to welcome **Aime Aitken as the new Chaplain**. She joins LHM following 15 years in pastoral ministry and three years working within social care and homelessness services. The role offers a unique opportunity to bring these areas of experience together while supporting the diverse community at LHM.

During her first month, Aime has been getting to know those who use the service, working alongside

staff and volunteers, and becoming part of the everyday life of the Mission.

At the beginning of August Aime started a new activity called PLAYTIME, which is all about rediscovering some of the fun and freedom of childhood as well as connecting with others and experiencing a little bit of joy. Week One involved playground games, space hoppers, ball games followed by enjoying retro sweets and snacks.





Guests of the LHM enjoyed outings to various places over the summer such as the Merchant City Festival, Linn Park, Portencross Castle near West Kilbride and the Hamilton Mausoleum. The weekly Swim and Sauna sessions and bowls at Kelvingrove remain popular.

Liz Smith
LHM Representative

WALK TO BEAT BLOOD CANCER

Glasgow Walk to Beat Blood Cancer is an annual event held in September, where participants walk to raise funds for blood cancer research and support those affected. This year's event will take place on **Sunday 6th September at 11.30am**, meeting outside the Burrell Collection in Pollok Country Park, Glasgow.



The event offers two options: one lap (approximately 5km) or two laps (10km). Participants can create their own fundraising page to support the cause. The event is a significant effort by the Glasgow Branch of Blood Cancer UK to beat blood cancer, with over £500 million invested in research since 1960. The walk is a chance for individuals to celebrate a life saved, support a loved one with blood cancer, or honour a loved one in memory.

Registration: You can register for the [event online](#). If you haven't registered yet, you can do so through the provided link or contact the organizers at walkglasgow@gmail.com for offline registration

Fundraising: Participants are encouraged to create their own fundraising pages to support Blood Cancer UK. Your contributions will help fund vital research and support for those affected by blood cancer



Over the course of one year, from 1st August 2025 till 1st August 2026, we distributed 3,035 food parcels. We provided assistance to 4,310 adults and 2,150 children resulting in a total of 6,460 individuals receiving help through our food bank. We have had several letters of thanks, including this email from one service user:

I am writing this email to express my deepest gratitude for the wonderful reception and kindness I experienced during my visit to your centre today. Your staff and volunteers were incredibly welcoming, respectful, and warm-hearted, and you represent humanity in its most beautiful form. In challenging times, encountering such generosity and compassion makes a world of difference, and it truly touched my heart.

Thank you for the essential support you provide to our community with so much dignity. Please accept my sincere appreciation for everything you do.

All of this is made possible by the hard working volunteers at GNE, but wouldn't happen without the support of those who donate food via Greenbank, and [donate online](#). Thank you all.

Donations can be left in the box in the church vestibule on a Sunday, or placed in the box in the manse hallway during office hours.

Alex Howie, GNE Foodbank Coordinator

POSTAGE STAMPS

Greenbank, along with churches in the Presbytery of Glasgow, support Alzheimer Scotland, a very worthy charity. I send the stamps on to Keith Scott, who is an experienced philatelist. Keith raises as much money as he can for these stamps. High value stamps and good condition are important. They are looking for:

- ☐ Stamps on mail you receive, being careful not to damage the perforations, including the QR code.
- ☐ The stamp corner from a post card.
- ☐ Unused, out of date stamps.
- ☐ If you are clearing out for yourself or a relative, then collections and albums of any size.
- ☐ Bags of stamps, however old the stamps may be.

Please deposit your stamps in the red box at the left side of the vestibule as you enter the church. If you would like stamps picked up from your home, please contact me.

Thanks to all those who take already part.

Elizabeth McKenzie



LEGACY FUND

Thank you again to all those who continue to contribute to our Legacy Fund.

Pledges can be, and have been, made for any amount of money you can afford, and spread over a few years by standing order if that suits you better.

Alternatively, a one-off payment by bank transfer or cheque can be made, and you can also donate to the project online by logging on to our church website, following the link to the Legacy Project and clicking the red "Donate Online" button. Spare pledge and bank standing order forms are available from myself or the Church Administrator, should you require any.

Please remember that **every donation**, of whatever size, is both needed and warmly welcome.

Alistair Smith, Treasurer



OFFERING INCOME

Dear Friends,

I wish to thank all those who continue to support the church, whether by standing order, direct payment into our bank account, weekly freewill offering or putting money in the offering bag each Sunday. Offering income is essential to the work of the church and any increases in offering income to Greenbank are always welcome.

I recognise that some of us may not be able to increase their offering which makes it all the more important for those who can, to do so. For those unable to come to church for whatever reason, but still wish to contribute financially, you may contribute by any of the above methods.

For a standing order form, or details of the church's bank account to make a direct payment, please email the church office or write to the address below and I will be happy to assist. You may also post me a cheque and/or your freewill offering contribution to the church office. Thank you all for your continuing support.

Alistair Smith, Treasurer

ARTICLES FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF GOOD NEIGHBOUR

should be submitted to the Church Office: office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk
and the Editor, Jill Liddell: liddell.jill@gmail.com, **by Sunday 13th September 2026** please.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

DO YOU LIKE PUZZLES?

The 9th of September is International Sudoku Day. The 9th day of the 9th month was chosen because Sudoku is traditionally played on a 9 x 9 grid like this one.

So what is Sudoku?

It is a puzzle where you have to try and fill in missing numbers so that no number appears twice in each row or column or each of the nine 3x3 boxes. Some numbers are already in the grid to help. The fewer numbers there are in the grid the more difficult the puzzle is.

6		4	2		8			
	1		7	6	3		4	9
7	3	2			5	6	1	
	5							
4				5				7
		9	8	3				2
					7			6
8		5		4	6	3		1
					1	9	2	

Sudoku is a Japanese word that means single number. The puzzle has been around for about 150 years ago. It started in French newspapers but began to become really popular in Japan about 60 years ago and this was where it got its name. It spread from Japan, then to the USA and finally arrived in the UK.

Puzzles can be found in newspapers, magazines and apps and has even been a television show. An annual World Sudoku Championship series has been organised by the World Puzzle Federation since 2006 and it was the federation that decided that 9/9 would be the day to celebrate this very popular puzzle. The example above is quite difficult so begin your sudoku puzzling with this easier one.

- Each row must include the numbers 1-4 only once
- Each column must include 1-4 only once
- Each block must have 1-4 only once

	3	4	
4			2
1			3
	2	1	

Happy Puzzling!

THE GREAT BRITISH BEACH CLEAN

18th Sep to 27th Sep 2026



Did you spend time on the beach this summer in all the lovely sunshine? I hope you took all your rubbish home with you. Sadly many people don't. People on boats and ships are also often careless with what they do with their rubbish. Because of this, our seas become polluted which harms the water and the creatures who live in it. The tides wash up rubbish on to our beaches which is not nice, but this gives us a chance to help.

During September, the Marine Conservation Society is asking individuals, families and friends to organise a beach clean. So, if there's another nice sunny day during September, maybe you could get involved in a beach clean. Here is some advice to make sure you do it safely.

Preparing for Your Cleanup

- **Check the tide times** and weather before you go so you do not get trapped by rising water.
- **Bring basic tools** like heavy gloves, a trash bag or bucket, and hand sanitizer.
- **Wear sturdy shoes** to protect your feet from hidden sharp objects in the sand.

What to Collect and What to Leave

- **Remove man-made items** such as plastic bottles, caps, polystyrene, and lost fishing rope (ghost gear).
- **Scan the high-tide line** where washed-up seaweed often traps small bits of plastic.
- **Leave natural items** like shells, feathers, and seaweed alone, as they provide homes and food for coastal wildlife.

Safety and Disposal

- **Do not touch hazardous items** like broken glass, medical needles, or chemicals with your bare hands; report them to local authorities.
- **Sort your trash** when finished to recycle what you can.
- **Wash your hands** thoroughly once you finish the cleanup.

Hi Everyone,

Welcome back, we have missed you all.

We hope you have enjoyed the Summer Break and enjoyed our wonderful sunny weather or went on holiday somewhere exciting over the summer holidays, and we can't wait to hear all about your time off school. We are sure you will be excited to see all school friends and hear all about their holidays too.

We have some exciting stories, songs and crafts to share with you over the coming months and hope that you will enjoy them too. We are looking forward to holding our sessions in the new annex, once works have completed.

Sunday Club Team

Dates for August/September are:-

Sun 16th August – Sunday Club Return to meet in Church & Manse

Sun 23rd August – Sunday Club meet in Church & Manse

Sun 30th August – Sunday Club meet in Church & Manse

Sun 6th September – Sunday Club meet in Church & Manse

Sun 13th September – Sunday Club meet in Church & Manse

Sun 20th September – Sunday Club meet in Church & Manse

Sun 27th September – Sunday Club on Holiday for September weekend

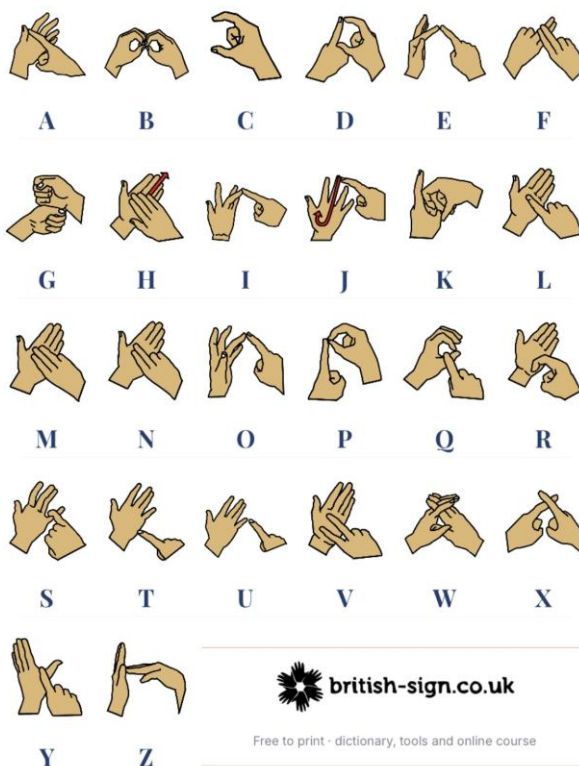
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SIGN LANGUAGES

Do you know someone who is deaf? Maybe you don't hear too well yourself. Being deaf can be very lonely in a world where everyone else hears. Try this. Turn on your favourite TV programme. Turn the sound right down so you can't hear it. Now try to follow what people are say for five minutes. Frustrating isn't it! That's just a taste of what it must be like to be deaf.

The United Nations has chosen 23rd September 2026 to remind people of the importance of sign language in helping us to communicate with people who are deaf. There are lots of ways you can talk to people who are deaf. You might have seen people "signing" on TV, using lots of hand movements and facial expressions. This needs years of training to be good at it. However, there is a more straightforward way to talk to a deaf person called finger spelling.

You spell out what you want to say using your fingers and hands. It's something you practise. It is fun to do it with a friend because not only do you have to spell out words, you also have to work out what they are saying. It's good to be prepared, so start learning. You never know who you're going to meet.

Fingerspelling Chart



MATHS QUIZ!

Why was the Maths Book Sad? Because it had too many problems.

Why did the two 4s skip lunch? Because they already 8.

Why was 6 scared of 7? Because 7 8 9

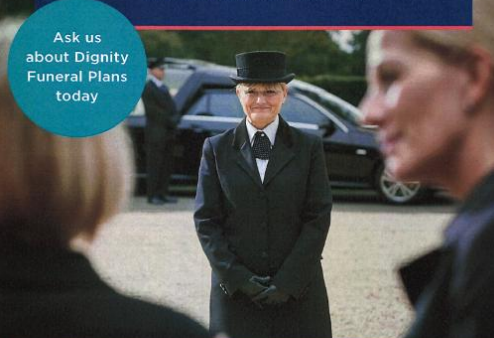
How do you make 7 an even number? Take away s.

What is a maths teacher's favourite season? SUMmer

What do you get when you cross a calculator with a friend? Someone you can always count on.


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