

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life"

Vacancy Update

Exciting times! As I write this, I have just finished signing-off the "Call" to Rev Calum Stark to be our new minister. Thank you all for responding so quickly! The Call will now go to Presbytery; a date for Calum's induction to Avendale and Drumclog should be set soon.

May I thank everyone who has helped during the vacancy. Particularly, can I offer our thanks to the Worship Team who led us Sunday-by-Sunday with such energy and refreshing variety. It's humbling and heart-warming to know that we have such a depth of leadership talent within our congregation. Also, I'd offer our sincere thanks to our Nomination Committee, who worked intensively and prayerfully in selecting Calum as our Sole Nominee. It has been a true joy to see such vitality and commitment from so many during the vacancy. This can only bode well for the level of support and teamwork that Calum can expect in future days.

As we approach the end of the vacancy, may we begin to look forward with revitalised hope to beginning a new era in the life and times of this parish.

I should say that as soon as there's a proposed induction date, you'll be the first to know!

Praying that we might all know God's richest blessing as a congregation.

David Moreland, Session Clerk

Christmas

Sunday, 19th December

Service of Nine Lessons & Carols
Avendale at 7pm

Friday, 24th December (Christmas Eve)

Christmas in the Country
Drumclog at 7pm.

Further details in due course.



EDITORIAL

This Newsletter marks the transition from the vacancy to the ministry of Rev Calum Stark as we journey through Advent to Christmas.



Our banner Scripture verse encourages us as to look to Jesus as the source and provider of real life in this world and in the world to come. Our call is to share this good news by word and deed in our parish and beyond.



Taketime – Guided meditation in Avendale. Next meeting Sunday 12th December 7.30pm-9pm.

Craft Club – Every Tuesday 1.30pm-3.30pm at Avendale. Crafting *and* Chatting! Enter the church building by the back door and bring your own drink and snack.

Bethany – Every Wednesday at Avendale 2pm-4pm. A group for women who have lost a loved one: support, friendship, practical advice.

The Guilds

Drumclog Guild

The annual Christmas Lunch is on 14th December, time to be confirmed. The venue is likely to be Drumclog Church Hall. Everyone who is going will be contacted by Aileen Scott to take their food order and will confirm venue and time then. On receiving this newsletter, Aileen is still taking names for this lunch, contact her on [REDACTED]. This Guild Committee is planning to resume their programme in January 2022.

Avendale Guild

At time of print there is no update on when we will recommence. Anyone who has an interest and a calling to take up the role of President can chat informally with Helena McAvoy either before or after a Church Service, or email info@avendale-drumclog.org.uk.

Children, Youth and Family

Messy Church – monthly at Avendale from 4pm-6pm. The next session is 12th December. In November we had 15 families attend and it was led by Murray and Anne Herbert and was all about God's wonderful creation. We fill the sanctuary, with families grouped around their own little table. Afterwards we move up to the Hall for a big family meal all together.

HisKids – Sunday mornings at Avendale from 11am.

We are for Nursery age up to P7. We are running during worship at Avendale from 11am. Activities have a "Messy Church" style, having fun learning all about Jesus and stories from the Bible using games, crafts and music to share a Bible message each week.

Strathaven Yoof – Sunday evenings at Avendale or Strathaven Evangelical Church – 6.30pm-7.45pm Yoof is for P7-secondary school age group. We are using Scripture Union material "Rooted" to encourage our young people in their faith, and on other weeks we have a Question and Answer Session to give the young people the opportunity to ask any question, encouraging discussion on aspects of their faith. Any enquiries about our activities: email info@avendale-drumclog.org.uk.

TR Aidcraft



Good news: the Traidcraft stall on Sundays is being taken over by another Alison – Alison Muntz,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

She has a supply of catalogues and will be happy to take orders until the Sunday stall in Avendale can begin again.

Joel & Mayra in Mexico

Covid-19 is easing in Mexico and that has allowed the training of future Christian leaders at Vanguardia to be done in person face to face. Joel and Mayra both have a heavy lecturing load.

Joel is setting up a new grouping of churches that will allow mutual support and a sharing of resources. They are spread over all the states in Mexico, so it very time-consuming at the moment.

Mayra's mother needs much help at home as she grows more fragile in health.

Their son Joel Fernando is busy in his 2nd year at secondary school.

Please continue to pray for them all in their very challenging work.

