



# **Barrhead St. Andrew's Church**

**Greenock & Paisley Presbytery**

## **Parish Profile**

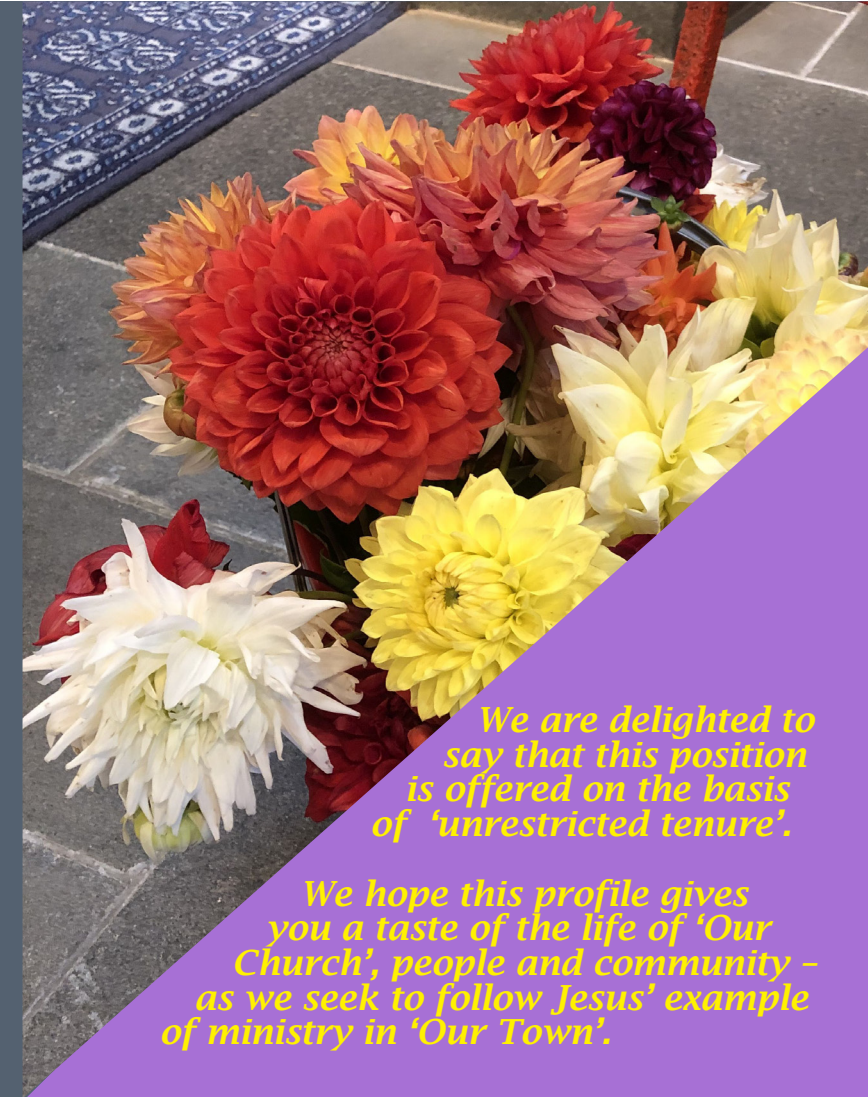
**Seeking a Minister on the basis  
of unrestricted tenure**





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# Our Heritage

St. Andrew's Parish Church of Scotland is formed from a union of Arthurlie and South & Levern Churches in Barrhead, East Renfrewshire. The union took place on Thursday 6 June 2013.

≈ Arthurlie Church of Scotland had been a worshipping community in Barrhead since 1793

≈ South & Levern Church of Scotland. South Church had been in Barrhead since 1846 and united with Levern & Nitshill Church of Scotland in 1985.

Barrhead St Andrew's is a vibrant and active Church having served and witnessed in the name of the Lord for over 200 years.

We have recently become vacant (July 2019) due to the retirement of our serving minister of over 20 years.



## Our Mission Statement

The vision of The Church of Scotland is to be a Church which seeks to inspire the people of Scotland and beyond with the Good News of Jesus Christ through enthusiastic worshipping, witnessing, nurturing and serving communities.

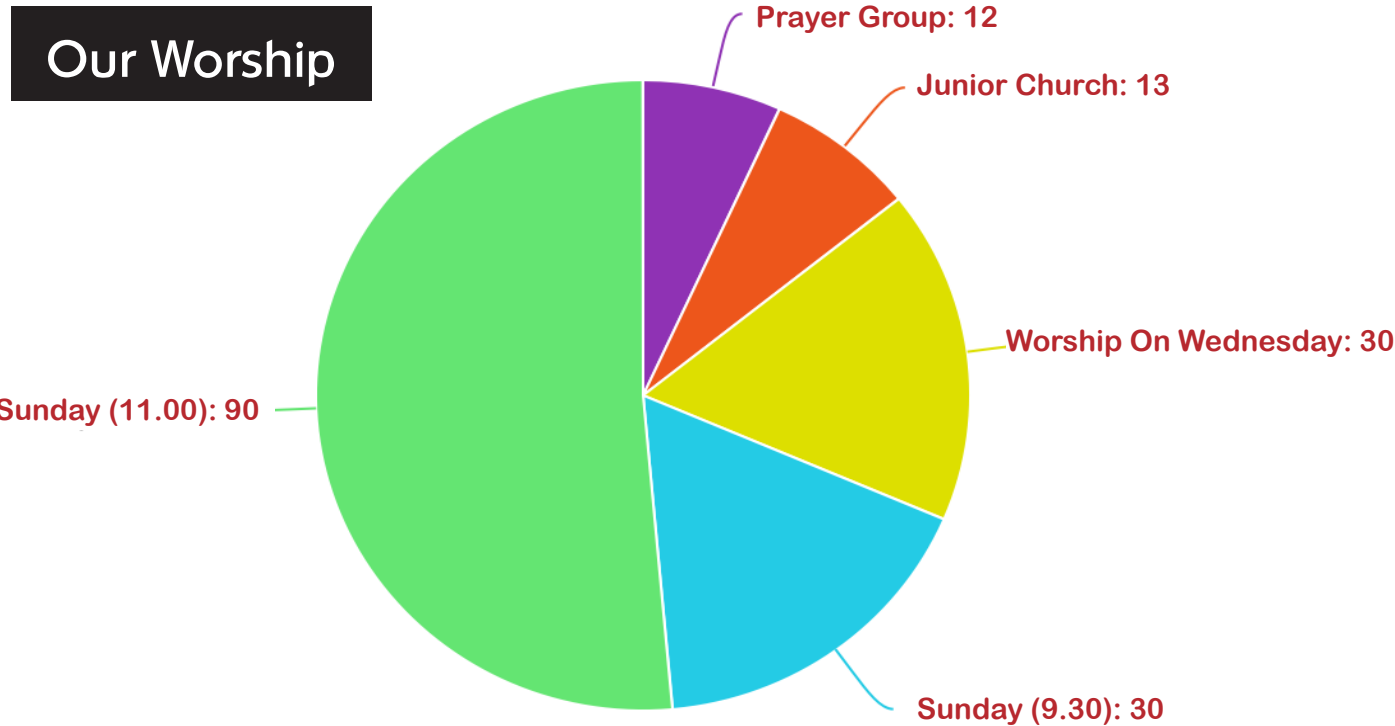
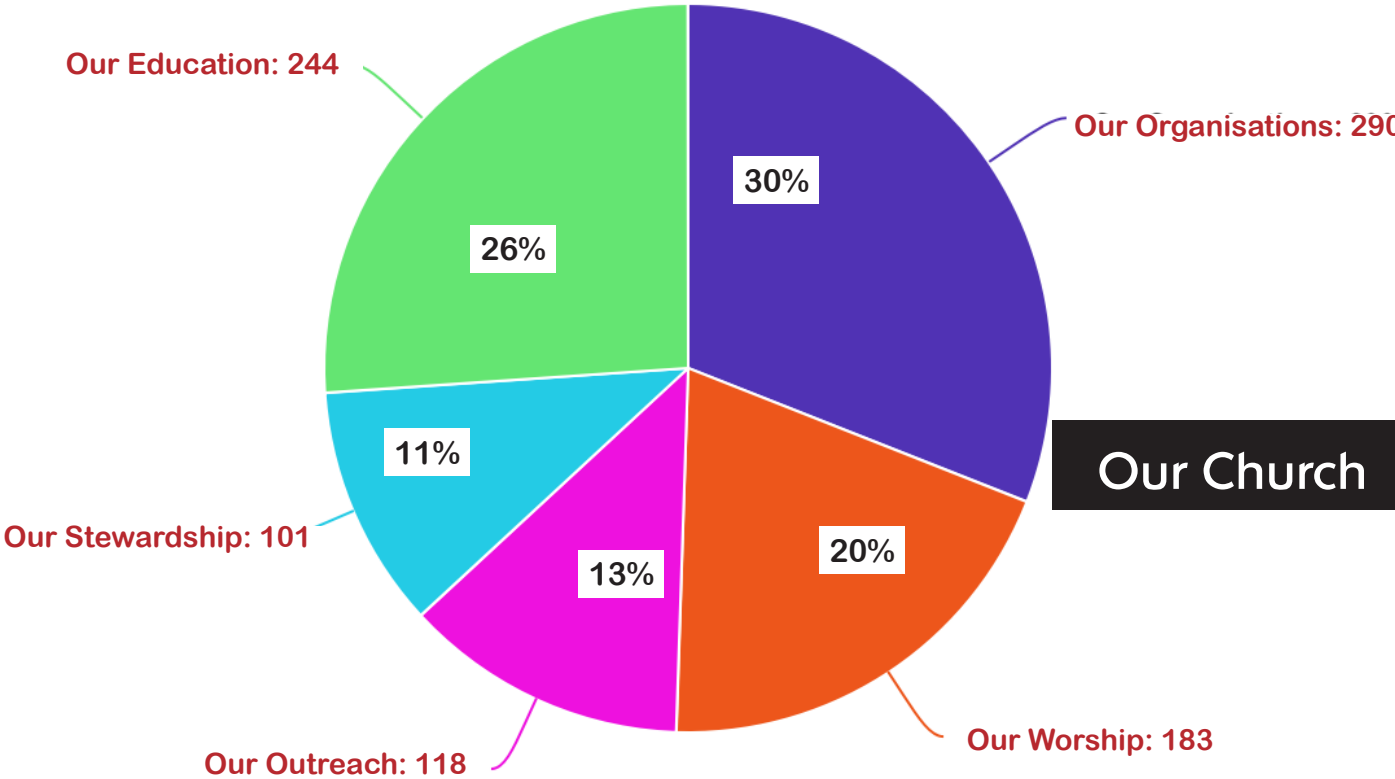
In Barrhead St Andrew's we seek to achieve this by being known in our community and beyond as a place where commitment to Christ and sharing his love are our reason for being; a place of welcome for those seeking meaning for their lives or in need of fellowship and healing; a community that stands out and can be recognised by the love, hope and joy of the Lord.



# Barrhead St. Andrew's In Numbers

Our Statistics

		Participants	Areas
<i>Our Facilities</i>			
<b>Ralston Road</b>	Sanctuary	300	1
	Large Hall	100	1
	Syndicate Rooms	10-40	6
<b>Main Street</b>	Large Hall	100	1
	Syndicate Rooms	10-40	3
		<i>Participants/ Members</i>	<i>Volunteers/ Leaders</i>
<i>Our Worship</i>			
	Sunday 9.30am	30	
	Sunday 11.00am	90	
	Junior Church	13	8
	Worship on Wednesday	30	
	Prayer Group	12	
<i>Our Outreach</i>			
	Memory Lane	25	10
	East Renfrewshire Food Bank		70
	KIDs Club	10	3
	St Andrew's Readers	8	
<i>Our Stewardship</i>			
	Safeguarding		69
	Kirk Session	32	
	Congregational Board	24	





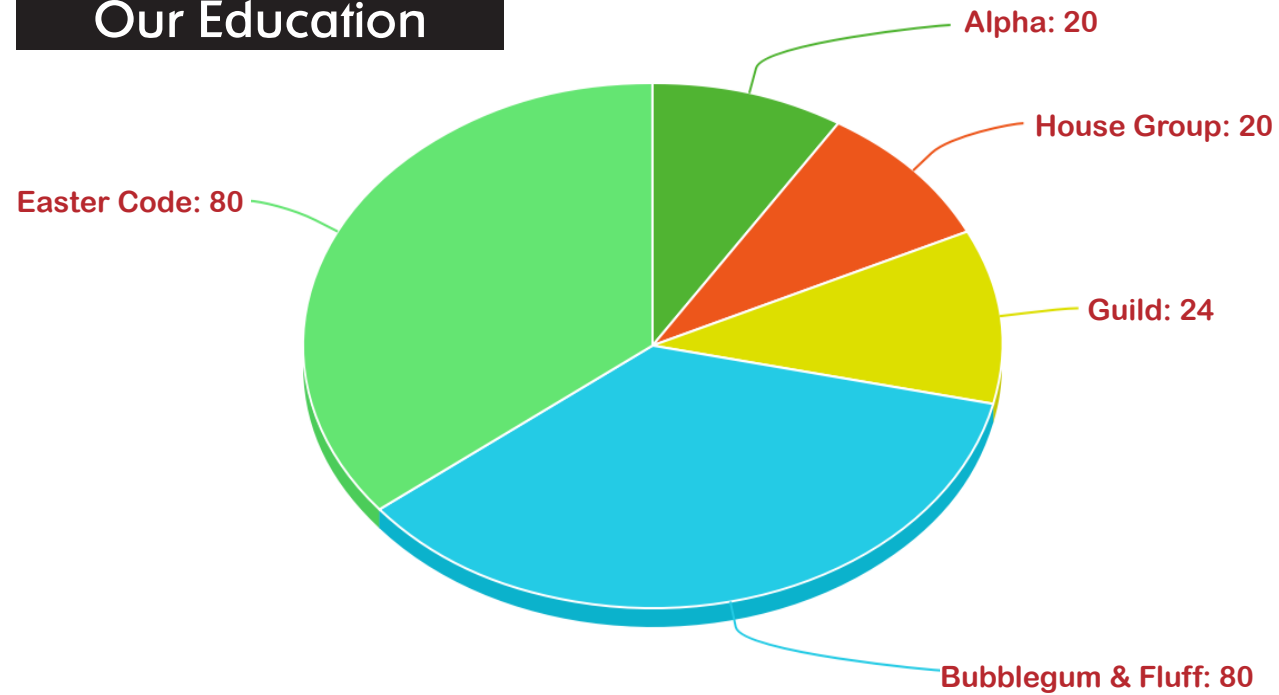
# Our Education

## Our Statistics

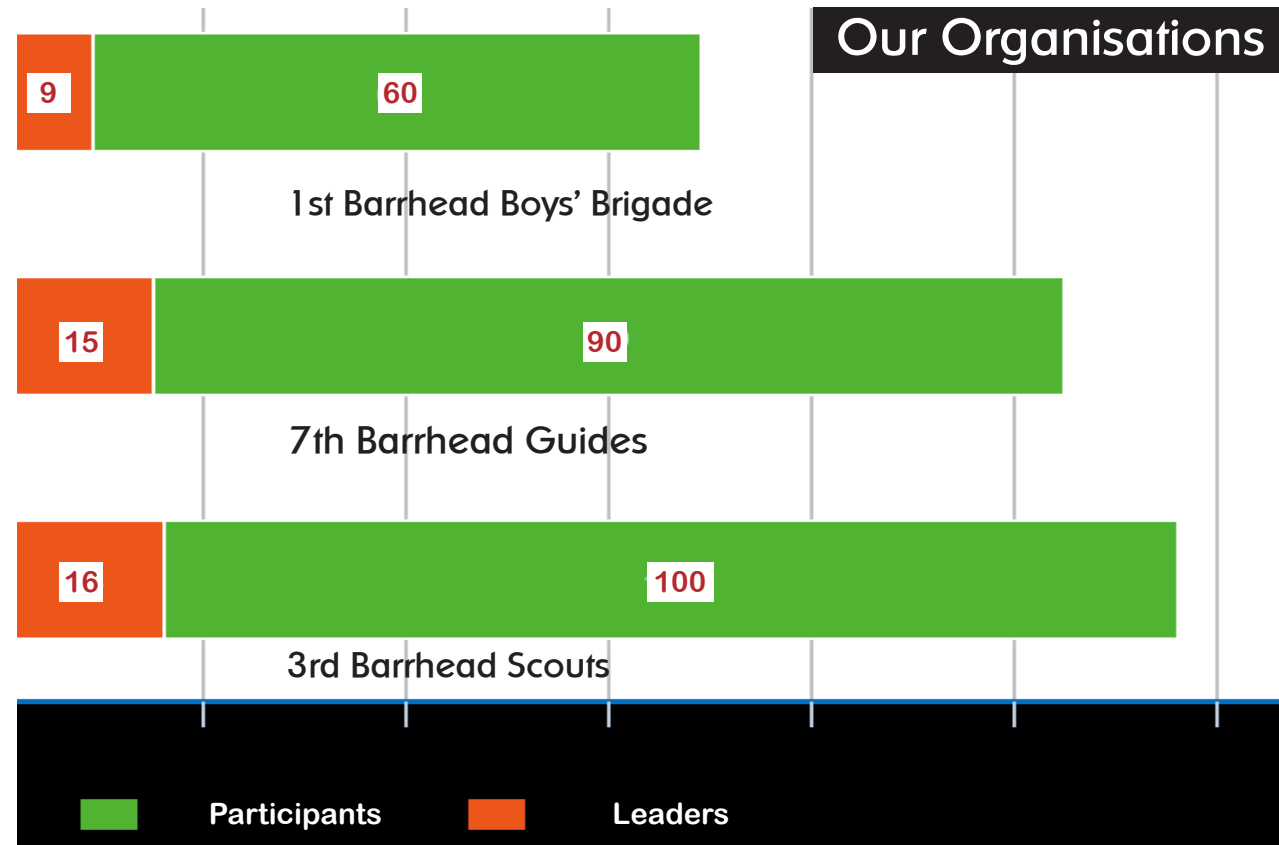
<i>Our Education</i>			
		<i>Participants/ Members</i>	<i>Volunteers/ Leaders</i>
	Guild	24	
	House Groups	20	
	Alpha	20	
	Bubblegum and Fluff	80	20
	Easter Code	80	20
<i>Our Organisations</i>	1st Barrhead Boys' Brigade	60	9
	7th Barrhead Guides	90	15
	3rd Barrhead Scouts	100	16

# Our Organisations

## Our Education



## Our Organisations



## Our Parish

St Andrew's Church is situated within the centre of the town of Barrhead, East Renfrewshire and is part of the Greenock and Paisley Presbytery.

Our worshipping congregation each week is around 150 attendees. At December 2019, there were 335 members on the roll.

There is another Church of Scotland congregation in the town, with broadly similar sized parish boundaries. A number of other Church denominations are located within the town, one of which (Spirit of Life) worships in our premises.

There is a busy railway station in the town and bus services with links to Glasgow, Paisley, Neilston and Kilmarnock. The M8 motorway is easily accessible from Barrhead, where you can head for Glasgow, Edinburgh or the M77 to Ayrshire. Glasgow International Airport is just a few miles away and routes to Loch Lomond are on our doorstep.

The population of Barrhead extends to 17,268 (2011 census). Barrhead offers a wide variety of social and private housing, including several new private developments. Within the parish there are a number of care homes and sheltered housing complexes.

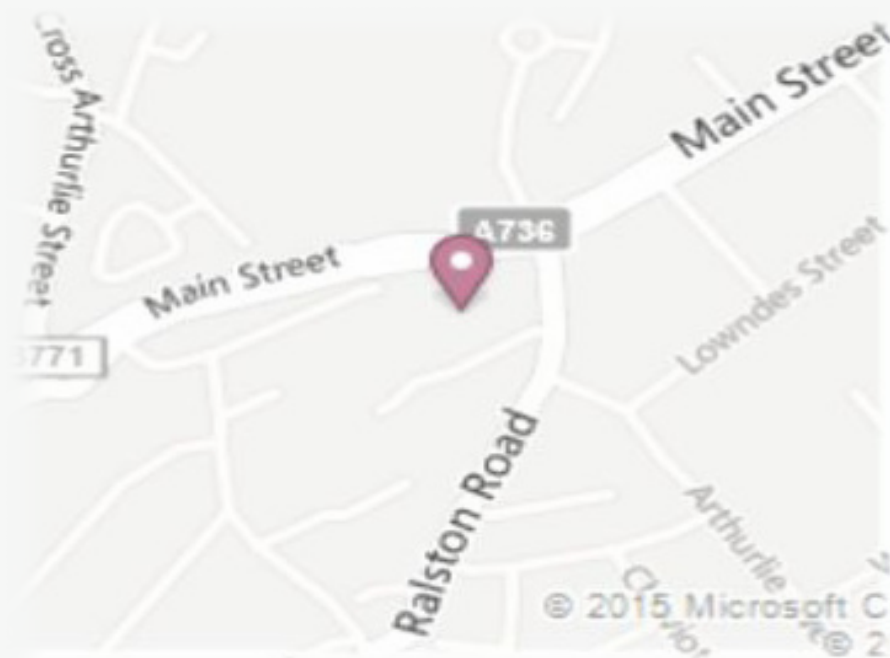
The Local Plan for the area includes plans for 10,000 new homes, another train station plus a number of new public facilities such as schools and community spaces. This will see the population of the town continue to grow and drive wider economic benefits.

The town is served by a multi agency medical centre serving the whole of the community's

primary care needs. A number of educational establishments are easily accessible including nurseries/family centres (three), Primary Schools (five) and Secondary Schools (two) within the town.

Barrhead's industrial past is best known for its connection with Shanks pottery ware. Today's economy is very different, largely built around the service sector. Local Government is a significant employer within the town.

The town offers varied amenities including Asda, Tesco, Lidl, Leisure Centre (The Foundry), including Community Library and Swimming Pool, Parks, Bank and a number of independent retail outlets. There is easy access to Darnley Country Park. Dalmeny Park House Hotel is on the town boundary.





# Our Minister

We are delighted to say that this position is offered on the basis of 'unrestricted tenure'.

We seek a Minister who will bring new ideas, knowledge and enthusiasm, along with a high level of passion and proactivity to ensure the Christian profile of Barrhead St Andrew's continues to grow.

We would like our Minister to work collaboratively with all the existing facets of our Church and community. This is considered essential to ensure the Lord's name will grow and flourish in this place. We can guarantee to support our Minister with the same level of passion and enthusiasm.

Please contact Sheila Denovan (Clerk to the Nominating Committee) in the first instance for further information. Email [sheila.denovan@ntlworld.com](mailto:sheila.denovan@ntlworld.com) or Telephone 07986560073. We will be happy to answer any general queries you may have or inform you of the application process.





# Our Future



We have an exciting future ahead at Barrhead St Andrew's, strengthened by our union in 2013. We have taken the best practices of both worshipping congregations *"letting no one be a stranger within these walls"*.

Our Community Hub Extension, currently under construction is due for completion in 2020 and will be an enabler to harness future opportunities for **"GROWTH"**.

As we move forward our new Minister will help us meet today's challenges, "growing spiritually, organically, internally, externally" and "planning for the future" to achieve a continuation of Christian witness here in Barrhead.

# Our Facilities

We have access to a wide range of facilities across 2 sites. Our primary site on Ralston Road has an open plan sanctuary (accommodating 300) and six syndicate rooms over two levels. These premises are fully digitally enabled with WiFi and digital media technology. Level access is available throughout with parking on site and nearby.

A major site extension is currently under way at this location, building a 100 m<sup>2</sup> Community Hub, due for completion in 2020. This c.£700,000 fully costed and funded extension will allow us to consolidate our present two sites into one and will enable all user groups to enjoy a high standard of accommodation. Once completed, our site on Main Street will be closed and subject to sale by the Church of Scotland General Trustees. Annual operational and maintenance costs will reduce as a result of this investment.

Facilities are used 7 days per week. Access our user profile [here](#).

The Church Manse is a 4 bedroom bungalow, of traditional construction, with attractive gardens and a substantial driveway with two garages. The manse has recently undergone a program of redecoration. Our Minister will be consulted on any additional decoration requests or reasonable adjustments they desire. The manse is located only a few hundred yards from the Church buildings.





# The Church Manse







St Andrew's Extension Project: Top: Community Hall Entrance

Bottom: Community Hall Approach





# Our Worship

Our worship is both traditional and contemporary. We make use of Organ, Electric Piano, Guitar and Media Player backing tracks. Our Choir complements our worship. Praise is led by two employed worship leaders and transmitted through a fully integrated audio system.

Praise words are projected via a data projector on to a screen. This facility is used to display images and video content as appropriate or desired. We provide song words in large print for any individuals who so desire. A Pew News is produced weekly, including an order of service and intimations.

Since December 2019, our worship has been broadcast live. This is also available for viewing as an on demand service. Our desire is to build an online Church community and extend accessibility of our services. The flexibility exists to extend the use of live broadcasting to other Church events. We have a digitally aware team who support this work and our Minister.

The congregation is used to leading and participating through bible readings / prayers or sharing updates on Church Life. We are happy to express our faith in this way.



## Services

On a Sunday, we offer services at 9.30am and 11.00am. During our vacancy the service at 9.30am takes place twice monthly and is generally less formal and shorter in duration. This service is currently led by a variety of congregational members and invited speakers.

We have **Worship on Wednesday** (WOW) at 10.45am, held in a syndicate room of the Church. This is led by those worshipping weekly and is informal.

Our **Junior Church** meet during morning worship and join the congregation whilst the offering is uplifted. Our average weekly numbers are around 10, ages range from three to sixteen. We have two sections following Urban Saints education material. We enjoy an annual Nativity Play and participate in a number of special services over the calendar year, including youth service, Remembrance Sunday and Holy Communion. Our leaders are enthusiastic and enjoy working with young people.

A *creche* is available weekly during our 11am service.



**Hospitality** is offered following each of our services, with tea/coffee cakes and biscuits.

**Communion** is celebrated six times per year and offered within both our services at 9.30am and 11.00am. This is open to our young people with consent of parents/guardians and includes children bringing in the elements.

Many other acts of worship take place through the seasons including Maundy Meal / Advent Meal / Joint Church Services with other congregations / Christmas Eve Service / Carol Singing / Holy Week Services and a Walk of Witness Service. We are pleased to say the young people and Church organisations are actively involved on these occasions.

The **Prayer Group** meets weekly and on the last Sunday of the month to update prayer points. Weekly opportunities for prayer are available before the service at 11am. There are twelve people on Whats App, where we send out prayer requests. On Wednesday morning before WOW, we meet with Church of God to pray for our community in Barrhead.

## Our Pastoral Care

Our pastoral team operate under the banner 'Love one another as I have loved you.' John 13 v34. The team is made up of elders and volunteers undertaking duties assigned by the group.

St Andrew's Parish Church Pastoral Care Group undertake responsibility for –

- ≈ Prayer.
- ≈ Pastoral Visits to the home, care homes and hospitals.
- ≈ Transport to and from Church for those with mobility difficulties.
- ≈ Offering additional support at times of difficulty
  - » Memorial Service.
- ≈ Providing friendship
  - » Plant Distribution to members over 90 years old and recently bereaved families.
- ≈ Social Events
  - » Biennial Senior Members' Dinner
  - » Biennial Senior Members' Outing.

More details can be found in the Pastoral Care Leaflet ([click here](#)) which has been distributed to all members.

Elders conduct regular district visitations, arranged over 28 districts. These are facilitated as required. Visiting Elders seek to connect our members with the life of the Church, share information and address concerns raised or bring back member comment to the Kirk Session and Minister as appropriate. Elders may also support the minister with the offering of home communion visits. During the visiting periods Elders will take the opportunity to deliver our quarterly St Andrew's newsletter.

## Our Outreach

**Memory Lane** provides a safe haven for those suffering from early stages of dementia, along with their family members and carers. Meetings are held twice a month with numbers ranging upwards of 25 per session. A varied programme centred around music and singing is provided by 10 caring volunteers ensuring everyone is made welcome and safe.

**East Renfrewshire Foodbank** was officially opened in September 2013 and operates under the auspices of the Trussell Trust. This Christian / Community based project aims to "prevent or relieve poverty in East Renfrewshire and surrounding areas". St Andrew's Church is represented on the Management Team and Steering Group along with members from other local churches. This helps to show that we are "Churches Working Together". The majority of the 70 volunteers have church connections.

Support from Churches, Schools, Supermarkets, Youth Organisations, Private Companies and Individuals from throughout East Renfrewshire and beyond has been most generous allowing us to cope with the increasing demand over the last six and a half years. Premises at present are based in our Main Street Church building. We are in the process of moving to new premises - courtesy of East Renfrewshire Council, who have supported our work from the outset.

**Coffee Mornings** offer a great social space for Church Members and the local community to come together and share a cuppa while fostering fellowship and friendship. St Andrew's makes good use of these meeting times to finance the work of our groups, organisations and work in the community.

**St Andrew's' Readers (StAR) Book Club** meets monthly in the Foundry to discuss Christian based books.

**KIDS' Club** is a small group of primary school aged children from the local community who meet weekly, supported by a core of volunteer leaders. We seek to share our faith and gospel message by exploring the Bible through stories, games and craft. Children are encouraged to express their views so that they feel valued and grow in confidence.

**Financial outreach** donations have generated over £59,000 in the past 10 years.

	RECIPIENTS	AMOUNT RAISED
Worship On Wednesday	HIV/ Aids Health Programmes	c. £15,000
Sweetie Stop	Smile Train/ Cot Death/ Breast Cancer/ ER Domestic Abuse/ RAMH/ First Responders	c. £14,000
Other Donations	Barrhead Bourock Summer Club/ Kibera School Project in Kenya/ Lodging House Mission/ Adams House/ Mary's Meals/ Disaster Appeals	Over £30,000



# Our Education

St Andrew's Church has a friendly, dedicated and enthusiastic **Guild**. There are about 24 members, who meet every Monday afternoon from October until Easter. The syllabus each year is varied and interesting. The Guild is eager and willing to help the Church, the community and the wider world, and in doing so remember "Whose we are and Whom we serve".

**Two House Groups** meet fortnightly on a Monday and Wednesday. Average attendances are around ten members. Varied studies provide suitable opportunities for questions, discussions and spiritual growth.

Our most recent **Alpha course** held in Autumn 2019 averaged twenty people weekly. Our away day or Holy Spirit Day was special and meant a lot to those who attended. We will definitely be doing this again in the future.

**School Chaplaincies** - Our ministerial team have strong links with the local Primary and Secondary Schools, conducting services/assemblies with both the Church and schools. Our Chaplaincies are with Hillview Primary and Barrhead High.

We are involved with three primary schools, where we deliver **Bubblegum and Fluff** (Christmas) and **Easter Code** (Easter) for Primary 6 children. About 80 children and up to 20 volunteer leaders attend. We consider this as an area where there is substantial opportunity for growth within our Church.

# Our Organisations

**1st Barrhead Boys' Brigade** is a very active and growing company, with over 60 young people across four sections (Anchor Boys, Junior Section, Company Section and Senior Section) supported by 9 volunteer leaders. Sections meet weekly on a Thursday evening. Young people have access to a full awards attainment programme including Duke of Edinburgh and residential activities. We are recognised within our Church and wider community for our annual fundraising initiatives, working with schools and local organisations. During 2020 our young people will be aiming to achieve 4 Queen's Badges, 5 President's Badges and 7 Duke of Edinburgh awards.



**7th Barrhead Girlguiding** offers an exciting, adventurous programme of activities for girls from Barrhead and neighbouring areas aged 5 through to 18 years old. We have units in all four sections of Girlguiding (Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers). The programme has been revised and encompasses a wide range of activities, working towards badges and awards whilst developing new skills. Trips, pack holidays and camps are a highlight in our programme. We welcome over 90 girls weekly across the four sections who are led by a dedicated team of 12 adult volunteers and 3 young leaders, several volunteering in more than one section.



**3rd Barrhead Scout group** is made up of 4 sections (Beavers Scouts, Cubs Scouts, Scouts, Explorer Scouts). We have over 100 young people in the group. The Cubs meet on a Wednesday night and the other sections meet on a Friday. We offer a full programme for our young people supported by 16 volunteer leaders. Other young people assist while doing service projects or Duke of Edinburgh service awards.

We are identifiable by doing outdoor activities in the church grounds and at the local outdoor centre, Lapwing Lodge. We venture further afield to Lochgoilhead and Blair Atholl regularly. Members attend an International Jamborette held every 2 years. In 2019 we sent 2 members to the World Scout Jamboree in the United States of America.



# Our Stewardship

Our members give freely and generously of their time, talents and financial resources, as is evident by our stewardship.

**Kirk Session** manages the spiritual affairs of the Church and presently has 32 active serving elders, meeting six times per year. Elders serve in a wide variety of ways, including managing the ongoing connections with our members through district visitations. We manage our day to day business affairs through one committee (Business) and four working groups (Pastoral Care / Welcome, Outreach and Hospitality / Education / Session Development). Each group has a specific remit led by a convenor and vice convenor. Convenors' meetings take place on an ad hoc basis.

We host one joint non business meeting of both Kirk Session and Congregational Board each year when we consider the wider Church and our missional calling. In past meetings we have looked at Pathways to Renewal, communications and digital media and pioneer ministries.

**Congregational Board** manages the temporal affairs of the Church. We can operate with 24 members, 12 Elders nominated by the Kirk Session and 12 members elected from the congregation, elected for a period of three years at the Annual Stated Meeting. At each Annual Stated Meeting, four of the congregational elected members step down having served three years. The Board meets every other month, alternating with meetings of the Kirk Session.

The Board is managed by a chairman and a clerk, and is organised in three committees, Finance, Fabric and Contracts. At each meeting a report is received from the committees. The Board also arranges the Congregation's Annual Stated Meeting.

## Safeguarding

St Andrew's Parish Church is fully compliant with Church of Scotland safeguarding guidelines. There are 2 safeguarding coordinators, who are both Kirk Session members. They maintain all aspects of the safeguarding policy. Our coordinators are supported by a Safeguarding Panel who have been trained to deal with safeguarding issues or concerns. We have 69 volunteers on the Congregational Safeguarding Register who are members of the PVG scheme.

Finances have remained stable since our union in 2013, notwithstanding a declining membership. We routinely operate an annual surplus on accounts, excluding exceptional items. We are one of the larger contributors to the Church of Scotland M and M Fund within Greenock and Paisley Presbytery.

Year	Surplus/ Deficit	M & M Contribution
2018	+£26,364	£83,928
2019	-£34,879*	£79,309

\* significant items of expenditure in respect of development costs

Our total current assets are c.£522,736, at 31 December 2019.

Our congregation is very generous with its financial support. In addition to regular offerings they give through the annual Gift Day which is held for a specific need of the Church. In recent years this has been our Community Hub Extension. Members gift their small change for our Fouter Fund to finance small improvements to the Church.

	PURPOSE	ANNUALLY	TOTAL
Annual Gift Day	For Specific Church Needs	c. £8,000-£10,000	c. £100,000 (£45,000 since 2013)
Fouter Fund	Pew Cushions/ Church Blinds/ Public Notice Board/ Poppy Display	c £650	c £11,000



## Other Information

- Interim Moderator: Rev. Ann McCool (ann.mccool@ntlworld.com); Tel: 07505 150979
- Convenor to Nominating Committee: Ronnie Whitelaw. (ron3whitelaw@hotmail.com); Tel: 07584725731
- Clerk to Nominating Committee: Sheila Denovan. (sheila.denovan@ntlworld.com); Tel: 07986560073
- Barrhead St. Andrew's Church Website: [www.barrhead-standrewschurch.org.uk](http://www.barrhead-standrewschurch.org.uk)
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BarrheadStAndrews/>
- Church of Scotland Website: [www.churchofscotland.org.uk](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk)
- Greenock & Paisley Presbytery: [www.presbofgreenockandpaisley.org](http://www.presbofgreenockandpaisley.org)
- Barrhead News: [www.barrheadnews.com](http://www.barrheadnews.com)
- East Renfrewshire Council: [www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk](http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk)
- Trussel Trust: [www.trusseltrust.org](http://www.trusseltrust.org)
- Hillview Primary School: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/hillview/>
- Barrhead High School: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Barrhead/>
- 1st Barrhead Boys' Brigade: [1st-barrheadboysbrigade@gmail.com](mailto:1st-barrheadboysbrigade@gmail.com)
- Girlguiding 7th Barrhead: [lorrain-ebrown@sky.com](mailto:lorrain-ebrown@sky.com)
- 3rd Barrhead Scouts: [cgburnett2000@gmail.com](mailto:cgburnett2000@gmail.com)

## Our Community Links

We have a very active relationship within our community offering high quality flexible facilities. Regular users include Childminders, Recovery Across Mental Health (RAMH), Women's Aid, Ballroom Dancing, Birthday Parties, East Renfrewshire Council, Keep Fit, Baby Sensory, Horticultural Society and Primary and Secondary School valedictory services of special recognition.







**“Unless the Lord  
builds the house,  
the builders  
labour in vain.  
Unless the Lord  
watches over the  
city, the guards  
stand watch in  
vain.”  
*Psalm 127 (NIVUK)***