

# HOLY TRINITY ST ANDREWS

LINKED WITH BOARHILLS AND DUNINO

## NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2022



*Dear All,*

I knew that this was going to be a very full magazine, but that was before the death of our dear Queen; so now it's even fuller. So many tributes; so many pictures; and so many emotions.

I am blessed to have seen the coronation on our 9" television set in 1953. The future looked bright; and so it transpired, as we have lived through over 60 years of freedom from fear of external enemies. But sadly, somehow, in the intervening years we seem to have have lost the faith which we had a nation when we cried out to God to save us. Her Majesty embodied that faith, so beautifully amplified by the words of our moderator, Iain Greenshields, at the memorial service in St Giles.

And so we stand at a new node in the history of the United Kingdom and, just as we have waited with bated breath for the finalising of our Presbytery Plan, a "little local difficulty", so we have to look forward in hope to better days ahead. Marion and David have put flesh on the bones, better than I could, but please read and talk about the challenges ahead for Holy Trinity and the St Andrews cluster.

Always remember, that at the last, we, like the Monarch butterfly on the notice board, have a glorious future ahead of us in the presence of our Saviour, Jesus.

Blessings to you all

Mike



PS People have been asking about the butterfly on the notice board. It is a 'Monarch' ascending.



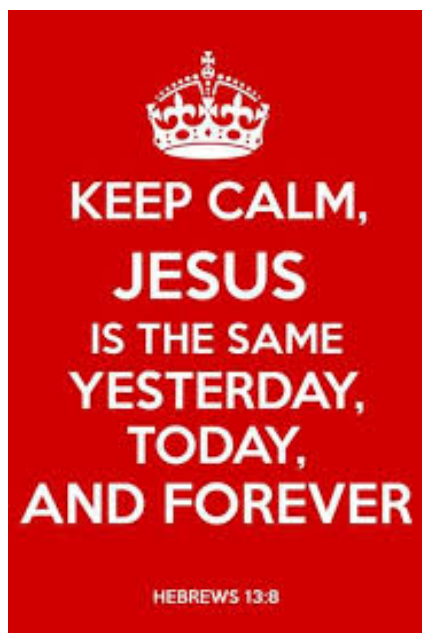
## MARION'S PASTORAL LETTER

Dear Friends,

Some years ago there was an article in the 'Church Times,' the newspaper of the Church of England, that said *'Academics at Duke University in North Carolina undertook a study of 4000 people aged 65 and over who were mainly Protestants. They found that those who regularly read the Bible, prayed, or attended church services were 40% less likely to have high blood pressure and the illnesses that are associated with it.'* The writer also observed that church going very probably boosts the immune system for everyone, although there were no statistics to support this at the time. In the years that have followed, many secular newspapers in the UK have carried similar articles which is interesting! So there you have it. It is official. Church going is good for you!



However, you would be surprised at the number of people who say, sometimes rather wistfully, 'I really miss going to church, I always went when I was young and it used to set me up for the week. But somehow, I got out of the habit, and now it is so hard to go back.'



There has generally been a reason, often a very good reason why people have stopped going to church. But the reason is often so far back in the mists of time that even they cannot remember what it was. They have got out of the habit, and don't quite know how to get started again. And it really can be difficult to get started again because some things will have changed. But progress always brings change with it and it is good to be part of that change.

And one thing never changes. **'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and for ever.'** And his

love for his people is constant.

So here is a challenge for all of us. As we get back into routine after the summer, let us each try to bring at least one person back to church who used to come. After all, there is real and compelling medical evidence to say that that church-going is good for your physical health and well-being. And after the pandemic many people are anxious to keep themselves as well as possible. There are many interesting activities in our church that new people could be involved with, and so much more we could be doing if more people were involved. Add to that the welcome that awaits everyone who comes, and you can see how good it would be to start coming again.

But what about mental and spiritual health and well-being? Sadly there are many people who try to ignore these aspects of their lives, even though both are important parts of the whole person. Since the pandemic we are hearing much about the damage that the restrictions have done to the mental health of both young and old. Add to that the spiritual starvation that so many of all faiths have suffered, and you can see that great challenges lie ahead. The medical profession are increasingly encouraged to look at everything that makes up a person, and not just physical illness. Our communities would be better and safer places if everyone did more to look after their mental and spiritual health as well as their physical health.

As the winter approaches, we may be thinking about ways in which we can keep well, particularly when many of us are being offered covid boosters and flu vaccines. But as the cost of living rises and it is harder to keep the house warm and afford good food, it is going to be even harder for everyone. So now that it is official that church going is good for your physical, mental and spiritual health, there is something positive that can be done to help. Why not come and join, or rejoin, us in worship and fellowship and experience the benefits for yourself? You can be sure of a warm welcome.

*Since writing, we have been rocked by the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The end came very suddenly and unexpectedly and we are told very peacefully, just two days after confirming the appointment of a new Prime Minister. I know many of you will have, as I have, watched the tributes to her late Majesty, and I would like to share with you here some of what I said on Sunday morning 11<sup>th</sup> September.*



*“Since the passing of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth on Thursday September 9th, our nation, the commonwealth, and the global community has been responding to an absence. Most of us cannot remember a time when Queen Elizabeth was not on the throne. She was, as our new Prime Minister said, “the rock upon which our modern nation has been built”. But there is more to it than that, for Queen Elizabeth herself never made any secret of the fact that her whole life was anchored upon the rock which is Christ himself.*

*It was interesting to see how the sombre mood of the crowds at Buckingham Palace changed when King Charles III arrived in London the day after the queen’s passing. Immense sadness, yes, enormous sympathy yes, but also a really positive response to the new monarch. And it was heartening to hear him speak about his personal faith as he promised to devote his life to the service of our nation, the commonwealth and the world, under God, just as his mother had done.*

*The gap left by her passing will never be completely filled because he will be different. She will always be remembered with love and respect, and because of her passing, for some hours the nation was lost in its grief, But although that grief will naturally continue for many months, a new positivity is now in evidence as our new king takes up his duties of service under God.*

With every blessing

*Marion*

**An Ecumenical Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will be held in Holy Trinity on 1st October**

**The Queen’s funeral will be live-streamed on the big screens in the church on Monday 19th September from 10.30 am**

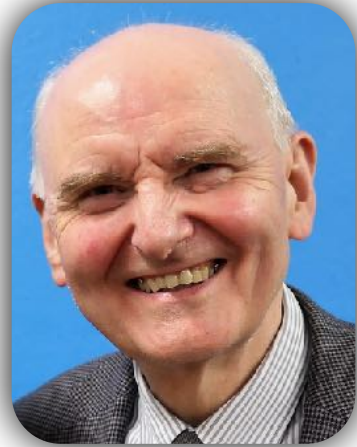
## From our Interim moderator

### AN EMERGING VISION

Sometimes it is difficult to see the wood from the trees. However, the recent Annual Stated Meeting of the congregation in July was a chance to reflect on what has happened at Holy Trinity during the past twenty months. That is my timeframe because on 10 November 2020, the Kirk Session made two significant decisions.

It had been asked by the Presbytery of St. Andrews to reflect on the Goring Report into the future of the congregation and agreed by 19 votes to 4 to do two things. Firstly, participate in an Audit of St. Andrews and secondly, explore the possibility of becoming a sponsoring congregation for a Presbytery Mission Initiative. This was Goring's imaginative development of 'Breakfast@Trinity'.

The Audit was undertaken by Brendan Research and completed at the end of 2021. All three kirks in St. Andrews paid £1,000 each for this vital research. Since then 'Place for Hope' has facilitated discussion across the three congregations from the turn of the year. This work began with ministers and Session Clerks and now includes representatives of each congregation.



Running alongside this, the Presbytery of Fife has produced its Presbytery Plan which is due to be approved in September. The St. Andrews' Cluster which includes Boarhills and Dunino and Cameron has been allocated 2.5 FTE of whom two will be Ministers of Word and Sacrament and 0.5 FTE, a Pioneer Minister who is being called to facilitate new work amongst families and young people etc.

In a former day, when we talked about ministry, we were talking about Ministers of Word and Sacrament. That no longer applies. A Full-time Equivalent may refer to another type of ministry – deacon, youth worker, family worker etc. Here, the Pioneer Minister will probably be a person trained in the particular skills which the Cluster determines are required for future development.

The Plan states that the Cluster should develop and form a Team Ministry and consider future building requirements for ministry and mission. All five kirk buildings have been given an A categorisation. They are *'to be retained beyond the five years from the date at which the Mission Plan is approved or annually reviewed'*.

On 9 March 2022, the Kirk Session at Holy Trinity expressed its willingness to unite with St. Leonard's and St. Mark's under existing ministries. This was reported to the other two ministers, the Director of Mission and the Presbytery Clerk. The other two Kirk Sessions agreed in similar terms but included the recommendation that one building should be used and the united Kirk Session should decide.

However, it cannot be assumed that a union can take place under existing ministries until the two ministers at St. Leonard's and St. Mark's have reflected on their sense of call and agreed to be called to this union. They are being invited to consider taking on a



different job from the one to which they have been called. This requires time for discernment.

Four things need to be said about the immediate future of Holy Trinity. Firstly, it will continue under Presbytery Guardianship until readjustment takes place. Secondly, it will continue to appoint a locum whilst the congregation remains in Guardianship. However, on 1 January 2026, Guardianships will start counting as a 0.25FTE which will then constitute a part of the Presbytery's national allocation of ministry.

Thirdly, the Pioneer Minister who has been allocated to the Cluster could be called to the Cluster anytime. Fourthly, HTAG continues its imaginative and exciting work to re-envision the external spaces in the kirk and their use for the benefit of kirk and community. Whether the Holy Trinity building is chosen for the union or not, the work of HTAG will be invaluable.

Looking back over the past twenty months, you can see some astonishing changes on the landscape:

- The Audit has been accomplished and ecumenical discussion continues
- The possibility of a Pioneer Ministry and a mission initiative have been secured
- A willingness to unite across the three kirks has been agreed although formal voting has yet to take place
- The church building has been allocated an A category
- HTAG has already accomplished greater usage of the building and at the ASM produced a well-documented vision for the future.

What are the next steps?

- The completion of 'Place for Hope' discussions
- The identification of a mission Initiative to be supported by all three kirks
- Discerning the nature of a Pioneer Ministry.
- Agreement on a suitable time-frame for the above
- The continuation of HTAGs work re the development of Holy Trinity's much loved church building

Reflecting on the above, there is some excitement about the present development and future prospects of all three kirks within the town. A lot of work remains but the direction of travel is emerging in stronger hues.

The ecumenical endeavour taking place across the cluster with the ministers, youth workers and Guilds is very encouraging. The ministries of music, pastoral care, Word and Sacrament continue steadfastly. The use of the kirk and the Church Hall by other denominations and community organisations has been extraordinary and the loving embrace which the town gives to HTAG's initiatives augurs well for future development. Sometimes change doesn't seem to be happening at all and people wonder if we are moving. This snapshot, covering the past twenty months, is just that. It is not the whole picture. Much more is happening than any one person can see. For as Cowper reminds us, *'God moves in a mysterious way.'* And any growth which happens is not ours to claim but His to celebrate!

*David D. Scott, Interim-Moderator*

### ***Are you a Frank Sinatra Christian?***

*How often have we hear the song "I did it my way" played at crematoria, and sometimes churches, after funerals?*

*God asks us to do it HIS way*

*"My thoughts are not your thoughts and my ways not your ways" says the Lord (Isaiah 55:8)*

*It's good to ask Him regularly whether we are indeed 'thinking His thoughts or following His ways'.*

*I've often been surprised when, in choosing His ways, I, or someone else, has received a blessing*

*(Bible in one year)*

## THE CHURCH GARDEN

Many congratulations to Holy Trinity gardening team - winners of Community Council - **Stewart Meiklejohn Trophy for 2022**. The Trophy will be presented at the **St Andrewstide Civic Reception**.

Our dedicated team - Rachel, Dave, Pat, Lorna, Peter, John, Michael and other helpers continue to make Holy Trinity garden a focal point for visitors and St Andrews folk alike



We urgently need a few more folk who can contribute a few hours a week to keep our church garden looking beautiful. I've spotted a couple of likely lads, shown here, but some others would be very welcome





Dear Church Key-holders,

Following a recent report at our Fabric and Finance meeting I am contacting everyone holding keys for our church.



In recent weeks that the rear church door was left unlocked (we suspect) overnight and while no security issue arose obviously we don't wish this situation to occur again.

Could all key-holders to ensure this door is locked at all times, even if you are in the building and ensure it is locked when you leave.

We are also missing the key allocated to Guardians, which should be the light switch cupboard. If you have a key which you no longer need, please arrange to deliver them to the church in an envelope with my name on it

*Kind Regards*

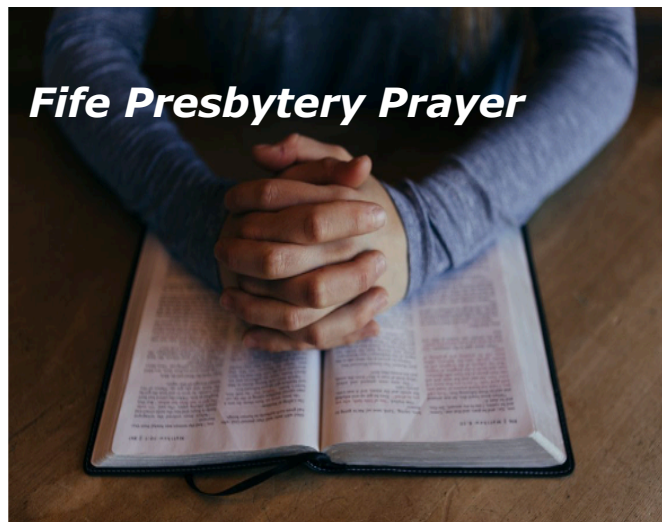
*Bob Archer*

## ***Prayer***

*A small group of people across Fife Presbytery gather regularly, meeting informally via zoom. We pray together for half an hour.*

THE GROUP MEETS ON TUESDAYS AT 9 AM AND WE INVITE ANYONE IN PRESBYTERY TO JOIN,

*For more information and to request the zoom link, please contact Irene via [IUre@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:IUre@churchofscotland.org.uk)*



*No excuse for repeating this; the eight or so people who are regular find it uplifting in these difficult times (Ed)*

## **Fife Presbytery**

The September Presbytery meeting, at which the Presbytery plan will be finalised for sending on to 121 George St (The C of S Headquarters) has had to be postponed due to the period of mourning for the late Queen.

Our representative at the next Presbytery meeting will be Richard Macfarlane, our Presbytery elder, who will report to Session at the end of the month. Once the plan is approved by the Kirk, things should start moving re the changes to the churches in St Andrews. The plan calls for one Congregation with a team ministry of two full time ministers and another part-time post, to be decided. Please pray about these matters, since it will not be easy to please everyone

*Please keep checking the Presbytery website;  
[fife@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:fife@churchofscotland.org.uk)*

***"I will make you fishers of men"**  
(The words of Jesus to his disciples)*





### *Launch of 2:10 Mission Fund 2022*

The Board are pleased to announce the 2:10 Mission Fund 2022 to support the development of local mission initiatives and projects across Fife Presbytery.

**The 2:10 Mission Fund 2022 will provide small grants up to £2,500 and large grants up to £10,000 to support the development of local mission initiatives and projects.**

A launch of the fund with information and opportunity for questions will be included as part of the Pioneer Intro Course Taster Event next **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

You can register for the taster event, via: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pioneer-intro-taster-tickets-362910975497>

**The first full course** will be delivered over 6 Wednesday sessions, 19th Oct - 23rd Nov - 7.00-9.00pm at Dunfermline: St Andrews Erskine Church

**(The course will be repeated in a North Fife location in Spring 2023).**

Topics covered: What is pioneer mission? What is required to be involved? What is possible in my area / parish? What are the first steps required in making this happen?

This training course is being delivered by Forge Scotland (Alan McWilliam) and Trinity College, Glasgow Uni (Mark Johnstone)

You can register for the full course, via:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pioneer-intro-tickets-413667529717>

### *A Question for you*

*(At a time of change of Monarch)*

This plaque, in Fife, celebrates the Accession of James the 6th and 1st.

WHERE IS IT?



***News from the Cluster*** (The grouping of the churches in St Andrews and the linked rural churches)

At a recent meeting of representatives from the St Andrews congregations I shared the possibility of holding free, weekly, simple soup lunches in St Mark's as a means to lessen isolation (perhaps pandemic related, perhaps not) and build fellowship. This possibility was welcomed by those attending. The recently published community audit identified how some local residents felt a sense of exclusion with no affordable place to go to eat in town. The fact that inflation is high and utility bills are heading upwards as we move towards winter only increases the reasons for going ahead with it.



The former Hope Park and Martyrs Church had the Roundabout Café and TOAST (a weekly breakfast initiative where people from the community and students shared breakfast and conversation). These were both found to be worthwhile. As our three congregations draw closer together Graeme, David and I agreed weekly soup lunches might be a useful initiative to help us to get to know one another better and provide a service to the community. I hope representatives from each congregation, maybe three from each, would be willing to attend a meeting in St Mark's to discuss things further and agree the best way forward.

Many thanks

*Allan McCafferty*

Ron Cruickshanks is carrying the flag for this- PLEASE contact him if you'd like to be involved

*We need to get to know one another across the congregations*  
(Ed)



## The Guild

Sept 2022

Holy Trinity Guild Committee met recently to plan the 2022-23 session. We have fixed the dates for our fortnightly Monday afternoons and made plans for the programme. One of the highlights will be a talk by Rev Alastair Symington on his career as a minister. Alastair has published his biography, which is a fascinating story.

As we were unable to have an outing earlier this year, we are planning a get-together at the end of September, possibly to explore the history of our beautiful church building, to which we can invite others. We will be sending out dates and programme details once these are fixed and hope to welcome some new members to the Guild. If you'd like to know more please contact the Guild Secretary Alison Wynd [alisonmwynd@gmail.com](mailto:alisonmwynd@gmail.com), tel 01334 476464 or a member of the Guild Committee.

We have a joint meeting with the St Leonard's and St Mark's (formerly Hope Park/Martyrs) Church Guilds in November and hope to work more closely together with them during the coming year.



THERE IS A

BOOK OF CONDOLENCE

INSIDE THE JOHN KNOX DOOR  
IF THE CHURCH IS OPEN.  
IF YOU WISH TO LEAVE A  
MESSAGE RE HER MAJESTY  
THE QUEEN

THE QUEENS FUNERAL IN  
WESTMINSTER  
WILL BE SCREENED HERE ON  
MONDAY 19TH, STARTING AT  
10.30

## THOUGHTS 1

**Sevens**

At the tea after Bill Taylor's recent funeral, his granddaughter Dawn, nee Ritchie, spoke out a beautiful reflection on "Sevens" in her grandparents' lives, sparked by the fact that Bill died on 7.7.22. Dawn recognised that, in the Bible, 7 is a number of completion and that Bill had completed his life on earth that day. (See how many references in the Bible to 7 that you can think of?). Dawn also rejoiced that her grandparents had always considered each other their Valentine. 7 plus 7 is 14 and we all know how faithfully Bill visited Elizabeth daily when she was no longer at home. Dawn rejoiced that her grandparents were such a good example and in the fun they provided for their grandchildren and we, too, rejoice that they are together again.

Dawn's thoughtful reflection brought an interesting response in me the next morning.

Lying in bed, I thought of my birthday 21.7 - lots of Sevens! Given that I was considered by my parents to be a "wee accident", conceived on honeymoon, I scuppered my father's career plans as my mum was planning to continue working so that he could go back to University to train to be a minister, this Seven revelation was really touching for me. We know that God 'knitted us together in our mothers' wombs', Ps 139:13, and 'He chose us in Him before the creation of the world', Eph. 1:3 and 11, but do we really believe it or really accept it about ourselves, or about others? Dawn gave me a lot to think about!

*Moira Stewart*

When you've got a problem; don't go to the phone, go to the throne (of God). Do we want to know God's best plans for us or do we prefer to do it my way? *(Joyce Meyer)*

## Thoughts (2)

*“We believe in the power of prayer to bring change”*

This is the watchword of the group Christian Solidarity Worldwide and when I received their latest bulletin recently those words jumped out at me and I thought perhaps they should be the watchword for all Christian people and I would commend them particularly to each one of us in Holy Trinity.



When I look back over the past few years and realise how far we have come since we shivered as we faced the possibility that our building would be put up for sale and our congregation scattered, I am amazed. I know that so many of us have been praying and it seems that, although we are not out of the woods yet, the old hurts have been healed, some of those who were working to destroy us have been silenced, and we have become once more a close, loving, dedicated congregation, each of us worshipping and serving God as best we can and in our own ways. God has not and will not let us down. However shallow our worship and grudging our service, He accepts gladly what we offer, for he knows and understands us so well.

Looking at what God has done for us over the past few years, I tell myself that I need to be more thankful for the way he has kept his promises to us and should spend more time with Him which is what prayer actually is. We have a small house group to which anyone is welcome, and perhaps we should consider forming other groups to meet, study and pray simply and quietly together. I sense this is something that parts of the Church of Scotland have lost. Before I came here I belonged to a church where people prayed “at the drop of a hat” as I used to say, simply and without embarrassment, as though God was standing just next to us and sharing in our conversations, as he is, if we ask him in.

Some years ago we used to meet for very informal prayers each weekday morning and I miss that a lot. Praying together is different from one's own private prayers and is, I find, a real help and stimulus. Is God asking



us to pray more? Perhaps we could think about sharing in a prayer group or groups, and if that makes you break out into goose pimples, just think of it as being like having a coffee with friends and sharing it with God. Not scary, and there could well be home made short bread and cake to share too. I guess it was like that when Jesus visited Martha and Mary and Lazarus and they prayed together as I am sure they did.

If anyone would like to share in a house group or a prayer group have a word with Marion or Mike Stewart our Session Clerk, or one of the elders or me, God might be waiting for you to step out. And let's expect great things.

## BUNNY SLACK

### THE MINISTRY OF FLOWERS CONTINUES

*Flowers are donated each week and distributed after the Sunday service to folk who are sick or housebound.*

*If you would like to become part of the group please contact Rachel Raynor*

*Apologies to all of those who have sent in appreciative letters after receiving flowers. These have been passed on to Rachel, our flower convener.*



## **HTAG (Holy Trinity Action Group)**

*This hardworking group, led by Graham Wynd and Callum McLeod have moved considerably since our last newsletter.*

*Firstly, there is now a legally constituted Trust (The Holy Trinity Trust) which could, if necessary, become responsible for our amazing building.*

*Secondly, they continue to organise and manage the concerts and events which bring considerable income to the church.*

*Thirdly, and most importantly, HTAG have now obtained some suggested ideas for the development of our building.*

*In the first instance this will involve the installation of decent toilets (including disabled facilities) and other disabled access.*

*These, and other ideas are displayed at the back of the church for you comments. (THEY ARE IN NO WAY FINALISED)*

*A meeting of the congregation was held recently at which these aspects were explained by Graham. A goodly number of folk attended and the response was very positive.*



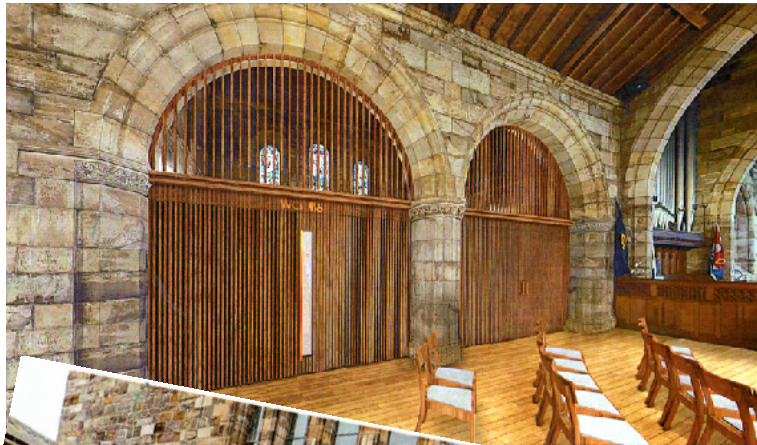
***HTAG need volunteers to help steward the large numbers of people who attend these functions - Again- can YOU help? (Ed)***

## The VISION!

*A couple of the architects ideas for making Holy Trinity fit for the 21st century*

*The overall idea gives:*

★ *toilets!*  
*(In the*  
*P l a y f a i r*  
*Aisle)*



★ *disabled*  
*ramp!*



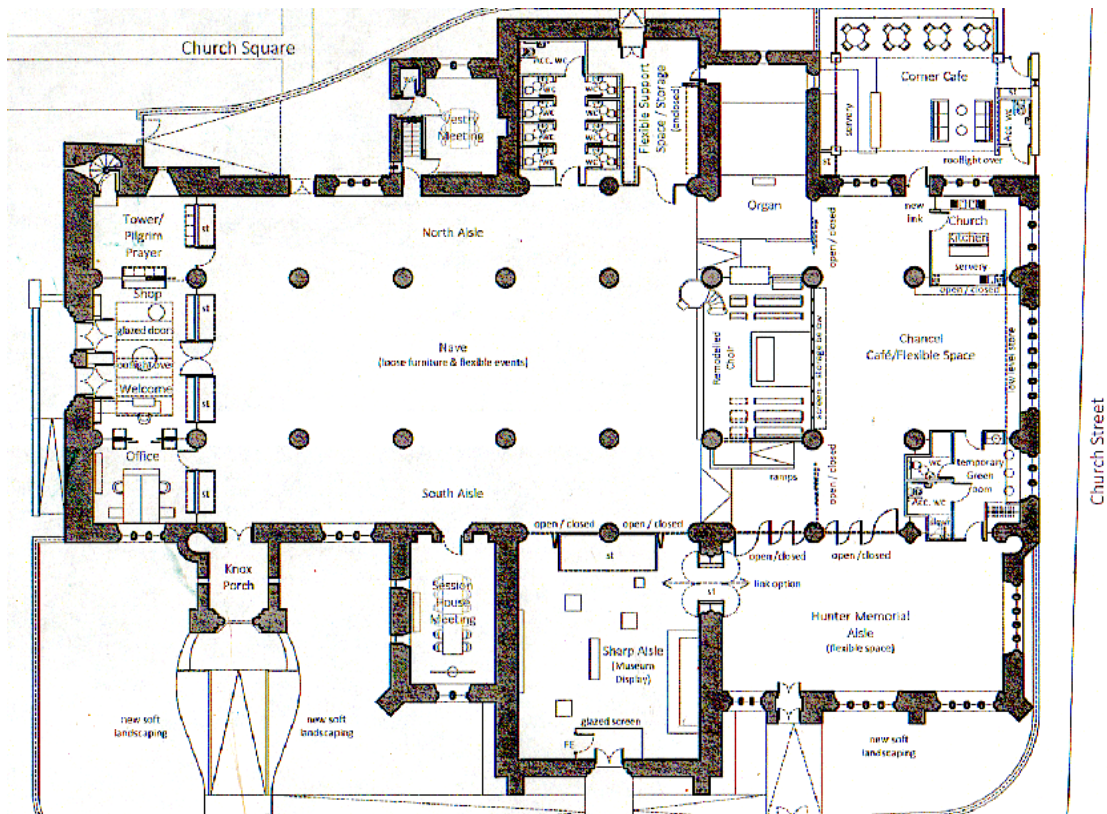
- *a new office and prayer room at the West door with a WINDPROOF glass entry foyer, allowing the West doors to be left open and the public to look in.*
- *Separate meeting rooms for all sorts of purposes.*
- *A modern kitchen and much enlarged catering area.*

*The first two are priority and we hope to start in 2023- the rest will take time and the raising of funds*

**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**



## *Possible ideas*



*Talk about it and let the ministers/elders/editor know your views*

## Choir and music news

**The bad news** *is that, sadly, Walter Blair, our Organist and choirmaster has had to retire due to ill-health. More will be said later; in the meantime Marjorie Bruce and Callum Macleod are holding the fort, along with Catherine. We wish Walter a happy retirement.*

It is hoped that we soon be able to attract a new Director of music to lead our worship; an advertisement is in preparation.

### **The good news is considerable**

The students have returned and the *Friends of Trinity*, now ably led by Marion, have been seeking to recruit more choral scholars at the University Freshers Fair. Auditions were held on Sunday 11th.



*Our new Yamaha piano*

In addition, the grand piano, gifted from an inheritance from Ethel Joy, *whom some of you remember used to play the Carillon and also taught in Sunday school for many years*, has arrived and is resting prior to being tuned. We are most grateful to her estate for this gift, which will be dedicated at a future date.

Ethel's name plate remains on the doorpost of her house in Logies Lane, from which she took great interest in the congregation for many decades.





## Honours and awards

We congratulate Tom Duncan, our organist and choir-master for over 50 years on having been granted a Professorship Emeritus by the University of St Andrews. Tom still attends our worship faithfully whenever he can.

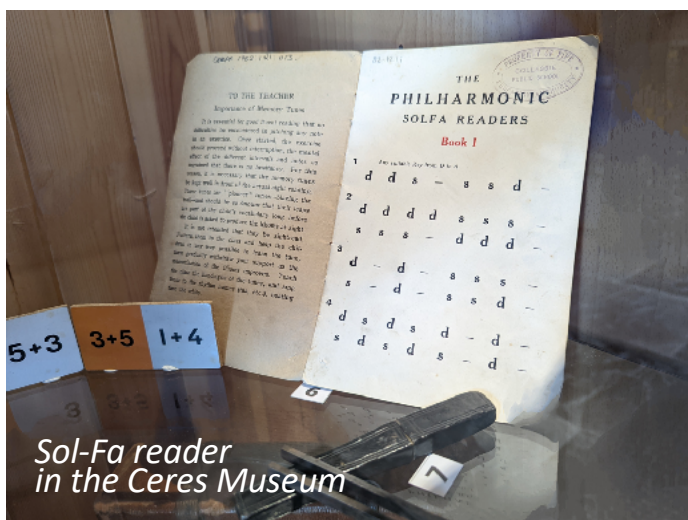


## Worship Why do it?

The Book of Psalms gives us all the information we need

- It involves the will  
David says *"I will praise God's Name"* He does it even when he does not feel like it because of circumstances
- It pleases God  
David says *"This will please the lord more than sacrifices"*
- It affects others

*The poor will see and be glad- you who seek God, may your hearts LIVE!"* (Psalm 69:29-36)

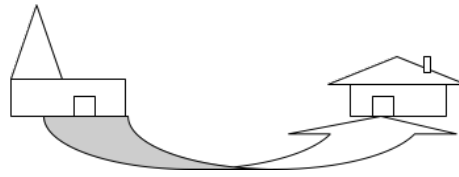


Sol-Fa reader  
in the Ceres Museum

You don't have to be able  
to read music to worship.

This is how choirs and  
congregations did it in  
the past

HOLY TRINITY CARE  
GROUP+ BEFRIENDERS



KEEPING IN TOUCH

**HOLY TRINITY SHORT AFTERNOON SERVICES 2022**

**FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

**HUNTER & MEMORIAL AISLE**

**3 - 3.20pm**



*Tea after the Friday short service*

**IF you would like to join our happy band of helpers at this service, do give me a call , Janie: 01334 476 191**

**IF you would like to consider being a Befriender at Holy Trinity, please contact me at the same number. This will be discussed in strict confidence.**

**IF you have any ideas and thoughts on how we might better keep people in touch with Holy Trinity, again ring me at the above number, or speak to me or any member of HT Care Group.**



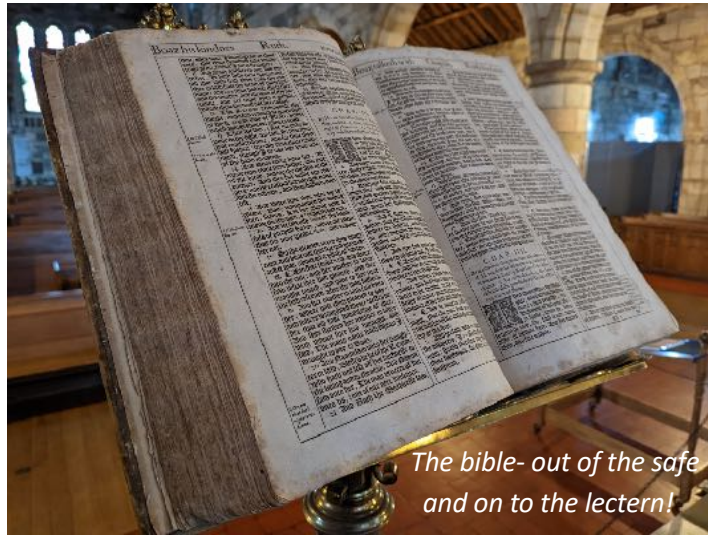
***With all good wishes,  
Janie, Convenor, HT Care Group + Befrienders***



## Our 1611 Bible

I expect you all know about the copy of the First edition of the King James Bible, published in 1611, which we hold in trust.

Recently we have had three sets of visitors, all of whom wanted to see the Bible. There are only fourteen copies of this first edition and we are blessed to have one of them.



*The bible- out of the safe and on to the lectern!*

The three sets of visitors were:

- Members of a University one-day symposium entitled “Faith in Fife”, organised by Dr Bess Rhodes (who prepared the materials displayed in the Sharp Aisle).



*David with his American pilgrims*

- A group of folk from the United States on a pilgrimage and Presbyterian history tour, organised by David Scott.

- A group of almost 50 Candidates for the ministry in the Church of Scotland, who were on a weekend retreat in St Andrews. The group included our own Ally Stark, who used to lead worship at Breakfast @Trinity)

All of these were shown the Bible, carefully handled with white gloves. All were amazed and grateful for the opportunity.

## *Scripture reading*

*Last Sunday a visiting elder, in front of whom I had sat, realised that I was going to read the passages for the day.*

*“I hope you’ve practised” he said. “When I have to read I start rehearsing on Monday and read it every day in case I get it wrong”*

*It can be quite daunting; and yet what a privilege. We have the opportunity in HT to read the bible for the daily readings which are posted on You Tube as are the Sunday services.*



*Mike Carslaw and Alison reading on You Tube*

*Would you like to record some verses and become more comfortable with reading scripture? If so, contact John Taylor and arrange a time; it is a real privilege that all of us should be able to do.*

## **Breakfast at Trinity Reunion**

*It seems that folk just can't keep away! Another excuse for a lunch at Cameron and Pearl's house at Priormuir was the return of Graydon and Erin Cress and their family for the dedication of Ella, whose brother Levi was dedicated at B@T a couple of years ago.*



*Everyone contributed to a fabulous buffet lunch.*

## *Holiday club*

Another fabulous holiday club was held this year in the playgrounds of Canongate primary school. Over 100 children attended over the course of the 4 morning sessions, with approximately 50% being unconnected with any church or faith-based community.



This year, our theme was Seaside Rock, with the children participating in Lifeguard training each day. Shelly and Sandy- our lead lifeguards (aka Michelle and Julie), lead the children in their exercises, songs, and helped them to decipher the code word for the day.

Each day we had a visit from 'Heather and Trevor' with the 'Weather'- which usually involved some kind of freak thunder shower with water guns.

The children sang songs with 'The Beach boys', learned memory verses with Flo and Pablo, played games, made crafts, and had a heap of fun.

Each morning we awaited the arrival of a special visitor, the disciple Peter, who would recount stories of his time spent with Jesus.



The children heard how Jesus changed Peter's life, and that this same Jesus could change their life as well.



It was a truly wonderful week and we are praying that the children would remember the messages of Jesus' love for them, that was shared through the stories, songs and conversations.



*Julie Torrance* (Our Youth Worker)

## Comings and goings

*It has been a good experience for me to begin worshipping in Holy Trinity. You are a warmhearted congregation with a fine welcome to a stranger - thank you. I have been a minister of the Church of Scotland serving as a probationer minister in Wellington Church in Glasgow (where I was so fortunate to meet my late wife Eileen to whom I was married for 45 years until she died in 2018) - thereafter as a padre in the Royal Air Force, in Craiglockhart Parish in Edinburgh, in New Kilpatrick Parish in Bearsden and finally in Troon Old Parish in Ayrshire. Every parish has its own individuality and yet in the 52 years which have passed since I first donned the clerical collar I have found a uniformity of kindness in every place where I have served as a minister. God, in Christ, binds us together and that togetherness belongs to you too. I have been grateful to our minister Marion for inviting me to conduct an occasional service and there can be few finer church buildings in which to worship than ours here in the heart of this ancient town. And so thanks once more for your welcome and I trust that I shall enjoy being with you as often as I can be.*



*Marion and Alastair after a shared service*

***Yours sincerely***

***Alastair H Symington***



## LITTLE CHERUBS



*Little Cherubs (our pre-school outreach to children and parents or carers) is now well into the Autumn season, meeting in the church hall on Thursday mornings. Julie, Beth McLean and Moira are the mainstay, with Ann Barron helping when needed. There are numbers of family groups, who*

*enjoy a time of fun, music and bible stories.*

*Please publicise it and, if you want to, come along and help- you won't be disappointed!*

### LOCAL Outreach

*STOREHOUSE FOODBANK, AN ACTIVITY OF KINGDOM VINEYARD is supported by all the St Andrews Churches. Our link is Ron Cruickshanks. Please continue to donate weekly, there is great concealed need in St Andrews*

*Storehouse is based at St Davids Centre Albany Park KY16 8BP*



*storehouse@kingdomvineyard.com 01334 845985*

*The Kingdom Vineyard (East Fife) is a Registered Charity No. SC037042*

*(No apologies for repeating this; it is important.*

*Why not visit the St David's centre on a Wednesday if you haven't been)*

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

Hello again, girls and boys, One morning, two young fish were swimming along, when they met a friendly older fish, who said: "Hello, you two! How's the water?" The two young fish swam on but, after a while, they were so puzzled that they stopped and asked each other: "What's *WATER??*"

Sometimes, something important can be all around us, and so close to us that we can even forget it's there! I think God's love for each of us is rather like that. Whatever we do and wherever we are, God's love surrounds us and cares for us. Now that's good news!

When I was your age, one of my favourite hymns was 'God is always near me'. You can find the words on the web; they tell us that, no matter what happens, God is right beside us at all times. Here's the first verse:-

God is always near me,  
hearing what I say,  
knowing all my thoughts and deeds,  
all my work and play.



It's really wonderful that although there are countless trillions (yes, trillions!) of stars in the universe, Jesus has promised us that God even knows how many hairs are on your head (yes, yours!)

Bye for now

***Granger Brash***

## **PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND**

**Have you ever wondered what the land the Jesus loved is really like?**

Of course, some parts will obviously have changed, but other parts will be very much the same as when Jesus knew them.

It has not been possible to arrange any sort of group pilgrimage over the last few years, with travel restrictions both here and there. However, my contact in Israel tell me that they believe that Autumn 2023 would be a good time to go. Things are opening up again but this they believe they will not be too busy. And surely by then, travel will be easier from here. This means that now is the time to start making preparations.

We would stay in the St Andrews Church of Scotland Guest House which is on a hill just outside the



walls of the old city of Jerusalem which is very pleasant, and in a hotel on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, also very pleasant.

Our guide would be my Jewish friend who I have know for many years and who is both knowledgeable and good company. Unfortunately, I cannot give you any idea of cost but we would keep it as low as possible.

If you think you might like to do this, please let me know, preferably by the end of October, (mjpdht@gmail.com) so that I can determine whether it would be a worthwhile venture. Certainly all who have visited the Holy Land would agree that it is a life changing and faith enhancing experience.

*Marion*

## *Short letter from Julie in Columbia*

### *Life as it is...(208)*

S and I meet to go to the prison. It has been -8°C overnight and it is still well below freezing point. There is a pile of rubbish on the corner so I stand outside a basement cake shop which will open later. Sharp crying can be heard and I immediately realise there is a baby amid the rubbish.



A nearby workman does not react, but opens a corrugated iron door. I can then see a small girl standing in a doorway crying and shouting "*Mamita*." I go over to her: she is trembling with cold and has tracks of tears down her cheeks. There is no one else around. I ask where her Mum is?

S. arrives. We think the Mum might have nipped out to get bread from a corner shop.

We wait with the child, who is about three, so that she does not go looking for her Mum and get lost. She says her younger brother is in their room but she refuses to go up the staircase we can see from the doorway and put on warmer clothes and shoes. She is wearing red leggings, a pink high neck jumper with a rabbit holding a heart with I U on it and pink socks. Her hair is in two high plaits from yesterday. She is pale but clean except for sores around her nose and mouth.

The Mum does not appear. S knocks on the neighbours' doors to try to obtain more information. The girl says her Mum does go out and leave them. She leaves them food. S. manages to get a neighbour to open the door but he is coughing heavily without a mask and says there is no one there who could help. No one else answers their doors and no shops on the block are open.

We speculate that perhaps the Mum locks the kids in normally when she goes out to work and that she forgot this morning so the girl was able to get down to the street but we have never seen the street door open when we pass on the way to work.

After half an hour we phone 999 and the operator says they will send a patrol car. A pick-up arrives and a young policewoman gets out. The policewoman talks to the girl and says softly, "I'll lend you a dog" which gets her interest. A small French bulldog puppy on a lead gets out of the vehicle and the girl takes the policewoman's hand. Together they go through the doorway and up the stairs. We take our leave and head down the road.

We phone our colleagues to say we will be late. Today, unusually a bus appears and, having tried unsuccessfully to get a taxi, we take it.

*Jules 21<sup>st</sup> August 2022*



## CHANGES TO THE PARISH REGISTER

***Sadly we have again lost several well loved members  
Our prayers go out to those who are left behind.***

### BAPTISMS

28 <sup>th</sup> August	Khloe Jean Donaldson	Holy Trinity
28 <sup>th</sup> August	Andrew William Donaldson	Holy Trinity

### DEDICATION

31st July	Cress	Priormuir
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### WEDDINGS

2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Kenny Dow to Christine Edwards	Dunino
20 <sup>th</sup> August	Fraser Dobbie to Lois Wood	Holy Trinity

### NEW MEMBERS

by Certificate of Transfer

Dorothy McCabe	Dunino
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### FUNERALS

6 <sup>th</sup> July	Alan Reid	Dunino
8 <sup>th</sup> July	Dorothy Rumgay	
Brewsterwells		
26 <sup>th</sup> July	Bill Taylor	Holy Trinity
27 <sup>th</sup> July	Valerie Reed	Holy Trinity
2 <sup>nd</sup> August	Grace Pedder	Holy Trinity
17 <sup>th</sup> August	Margaret McPherson	Holy Trinity
30 <sup>th</sup> August	Archibald James Dickson	McGregors

*As we go to press, we are saddened to hear of the death of our dear  
Ken Morris, Session Clerk at Boarhills and Dunino on  
September.*

*Both congregations are holding  
Grace and all the family in our prayers*

*As the end of the year approaches, with the decisions of Presbytery re our congregations in St Andrews reach a conclusion, we continue to hope and trust for a wise and acceptable plan for the future*



*There is a hope that burns within my heart  
that gives me strength for every passing day  
A glimpse of glory now revealed in part  
that drives all doubt away  
I stand in Christ with sins forgiven  
and Christ in me, the hope of heaven  
My highest calling and my deepest joy  
to make His will my own*

*(c)Stuart Townsend*

