

Boarhills, Dunino and St Andrews: Holy Trinity Church of Scotland

Newsletter
September
2024

Mission Statement:

Boarhills, Dunino and St Andrews: Holy Trinity Church of Scotland lives to worship God and to encourage faith in and service to, Jesus Christ among the people of today and tomorrow

Charity number SC017173

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Everyone,

At the Session meeting last week we had a short discussion on what our priorities should be, either as a single church or part of a grouping.

It was interesting to find that there was unanimous agreement that we should be providing pastoral care, both to our own members and to those in the parish, as we are to an extent, thanks to many, many of you, not least Marion.



But I was arrested by this picture, taken in Market street last Easter. How often do we walk by those whom it is just “too difficult” to respond to?

When it came to other aspects, we realized that, despite the efforts of Janie and Granger, Julie and the team at Little Cherubs, we are not really reaching the young folk to a major extent.

Jesus’ last instruction to His disciples as to “Go and make disciples (of all nations)” indeed he had said that He

would make them **fishers of men**.

And so, it is appropriate this year, when the theme of the Christmas watchnight service is “fishermen” that we remember Jesus’s words to those he had discipled.

The statues on the cover are outside the maritime museum in Aberdeen and, if you look carefully, you will see that the building was once the Trinity congregation.

We live in a town which is full of “all nations”, but unless they venture in the door on a Sunday morning, again we fail to engage with them. I met a man from one of the other churches in the town this week. He told me that although He and his wife have only been in St Andrews a short time, and has joined one of the other churches, he already has been taking part in visitations to the care homes (He plays the keyboard) and was entertaining ten foreign students to lunch that day. (Bunny sets us a good example in this respect).



When on guardian duty Moira was asked by a Fresher “Does this church have Bible Study groups for students?” to which her answer had to be “Sadly, no”.

I am not pointing fingers at anyone but myself, but we HAVE to move forward. We have now wasted years since we were impacting young families, teenagers and children.

Steve has started an initiative with his flyer inviting students to “Back to church Sunday” (see below), but if they come... what have we to offer?

Tommy MacNeil and the team from the new Church of Scotland Mission team are visiting Fife on 11th September. Tommy, you may remember, wrote the book “Sleeping Giant” which gave his vision for the Kirk (and not only the Kirk, because other denominations are also “asleep”).

The response to the publication of that book was HUGE, but mainly outside the established church.

But NOW the CofS has taken the vision on board, are we prepared to run with it?

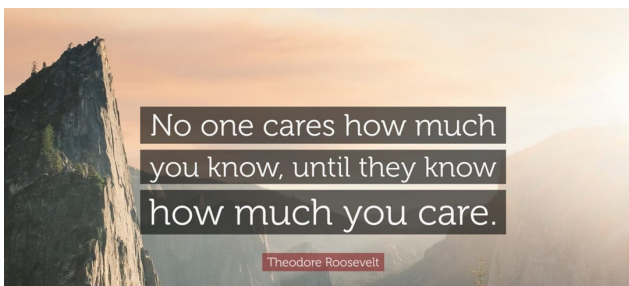
I heard of a church last month in the Lothians which saw 39 young people make a commitment to Jesus over one weekend, but the important thing is that they are committed to discipling these “baby Christians”.

Evangelism is not highly regarded in the Kirk, mainly because, in the past many of those brought to faith have fallen away due to lack of nurture.

Could some of us who are long in the Lord not take one or two young folk under our wing show them love and guide and confirm them in their faith in this confusing world?

I am challenged, because, looking back, I would not have survived without the counsel and love of older Christians.

Session decided that we have to look forward. Will You join in?



Or will we waste another
ten or more years
worrying about the toilets!

Blessings, *Mike*

MARION'S PASTORAL LETTER

Dear Friends,

As many of you know, the months of July and August have been particularly difficult for me although things are becoming easier now. So, I want to take this opportunity of thanking so many people for their kindness and their help during this period. Particularly for those who live alone and have no close family, when something like what happened to me happens, it is so encouraging to know that there are those who care.



But there is something else, for as I write I have just returned from conducting the funeral of a friend whose whole life was shaped by these two well-known sayings of Jesus. **'A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another'**. (John 13:34) and **"So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets"**. (Matthew 7:12) In many ways, although they are from different gospels, these two sayings of Jesus belong together, for it is love that should always shape our lives and the way that we deal with each other, and if we deal with each other with loving kindness, then we are treating others as we ourselves would like to be treated. Loving kindness then, is a language that the dumb can speak and the deaf can hear and all can understand. It is the language of Jesus himself.

This means that as brothers and sisters in Christ we should always try to speak the language of love, love for each other, and love for the world. And not only speak it, but also demonstrate it in all our dealings. There are times when this is a big ask, when things go wrong or simply don't go the way we think they should. But as the family that is the church this is what we are called to do.

It was David Watson in his book 'Discipleship' who said this. *'The Christian Church is not a club that we belong to in order that our needs might be met. It is a body, a building, a family, an army. These are some of the pictures used to show that by accepting the call of Christ we have responsibilities that we cannot avoid if we are to be his disciples. It is not a matter of our feelings and personal choices, it is a matter of taking with the utmost seriousness the conditions and demands of discipleship that Jesus lays upon us. We are no longer our own. We have been chosen by him, called by him, bought by him.'*

And we therefore belong to him, and by virtue of this fact we therefore belong to one another, however easy or difficult, joyful or painful we might find that to be'.

I have always been grateful for my Christian family, both locally and globally, for it has welcomed, sustained and nurtured me through all the ups and downs of life. To have a caring family is so important for everyone, and this is what the family that is the body of Christ should be for all people.

With every blessing,

Marion

FROM OUR INTERIM MODERATOR

Dear Friends

One of the delights of summer in Holy Trinity is to welcome so many people from so many parts of the world who come to learn more about the story and contribution of Holy Trinity, not only in the life of the town but in the history of our church in Scotland. It is a further blessing that so many of them return on Sundays to share in our worship. It is also a heartening thing also to share in worship in the other half of our heritage - in Boarhills and Dunino with its beautiful country church which breathes the longevity and vitality of the rural witness to God in our nation. We are fortunate as a parish to be invited to look after such a beautiful part of God's estate in our country.



And it is also a lovely thing that, as we edge nearer autumn, so also we shall begin to welcome back to our midst some of the student body in our town and, in particular, the choir who are missed during the university vacation times but who are welcome back eagerly as they enhance our times of worship. I trust that we shall continue to go from strength to strength and that our wonderful God will continue to guide us through the present and into the future.

Yours in Christ,

Alastair H. Symington (Interim Moderator)

FROM OUR SESSION CLERK

Dear all,

I hope you have all had a good summer and have enjoyed some time for relaxation. Thank you also for your continued support for the activities of Boarhills, Dunino and St Andrews: Holy Trinity (or BDStA:HT - I apologise for this mouthful of an acronym).



So much has been going on and it is great to see the church community supporting each other in so many ways. The opening of Holy Trinity for visitors has been particularly notable and the throughput of visitors (and the number of compliments they have given) extremely high - but this is just scratching the surface of what has been going on. The Holiday Club has been a great success and the Family Film nights well attended as well as numerous other initiatives and continued opportunities for worship and celebration.

To keep you updated: You may be aware of the continuing discussions concerning the implementation of the Presbytery Mission Plan which were looking at implementing a union of St Leonard's, St Mark's and (at the time) Holy Trinity. The G12 ('Group of 12') was set up as an advisory group to consider this, led by a facilitator nominated by Fife Presbytery. The group was made up of representatives of each church and initially also included ministers and interim moderators, though not locum ministers. The group went some way, producing a draft basis of union and a draft team ministry as well as a vision and values statement for the united parish. Before any union, the basis of union and the basis of team ministry would have to be approved by the three Sessions and the three Congregations. This has not happened (i.e. none has been presented for approval).

The plan includes 2.5FTE ministers for a united parish.

Since the formation of the group, a number of changes have happened. It has new facilitators, Alan and Margaret Kimmitt; the union has taken place between Boarhills and Dunino and Holy Trinity (as well as between Cameron and St Leonard's); St Mark's is now in vacancy; Strathkinness church has closed etc.

Given the change in circumstances, Session unanimously adopted a proposal which proposed, instead of a three-way union, two parishes for St Andrews:

one centered on BDStA:HT, the other centered on St Leonard's. The 2.5FTE allocation would be divided between the two parishes.

St Mark's and St Leonard's have in turn proposed that St Mark's and St Leonard's unite and retain the 2.5FTE allocation; BDStA:HT would be left with no ministerial support. The intention was then that BDStA:HT would unite later.

Since our last Session meeting, there have been two further G12 meetings and the facilitators have suggested a number of ways forward. These include a 'Parish grouping'. For more information on parish groupings, see below (from the Kimmitts).

There is a lot of flexibility in Parish Groupings. These are some of the relevant extracts from various documents:

From the Mission Planning Act:

PARISH GROUPINGS - The Presbytery may declare that two or more charges shall have responsibility for a single area. The Basis of such an Adjustment shall determine the extent to which the charges shall operate as a Parish Grouping, for instance in the sharing of worship, personnel, education resources, mission initiatives, congregational organisations etc.

From the Basis Template:

4. Kirk Sessions: [Statement defining the Moderator(s) of each Kirk Session concerned and whether or not the Kirk Sessions will come together as a joint meeting. If they are coming together, a definition on frequency and purpose is important.]

6. Ministry Team: [Statement of those who will comprise the Ministry Team to serve the Parish Grouping, with details of method and terms of appointment(s).]

9. Areas of Co-operation: [Statement about areas in which congregations agreeing wish to co-operate, e.g. youth work, pastoral care, mission, etc.]

Presbytery Mission Plan Act: Guidance and Code of Practice

"6.6 Congregational groupings should move towards fewer decision-making bodies and fewer buildings, with effective numbers of office

bearers. Multi-linkage charges should be strongly discouraged, as congregations in various forms of partnership need to be sharing vision for mission and life, and a requirement for too many office bearers drains the energies of Ministry leadership with the potential for miscommunication, divergence of vision and lengthening decision-making processes."

A parish grouping could be formed from either two or three congregations, each of which would retain responsibility for their own property and funds. So, this is something short of a Union and/or Team Ministry, but still offers significant scope for cooperation and sharing.

In my view, there is much to commend this option. It could involve a number of shared activities (which would be agreed by the churches involved - this could involve outreach, pastoral work etc. - as much or as little as required, there is flexibility).

Session is meeting on 5 September and no doubt the 'parish grouping' and other options will be discussed then.

If you have any views on the Presbytery Mission Plan and also on options such as a parish grouping, or a union please let me know. You can email me on htsessionclerk@gmail.com or write to me, care of Holy Trinity Church, St Andrews. I look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Mike Carslaw



Proverbs 9:10: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of **wisdom**, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

2 Chronicles 1:10: Give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may lead this people, for who is able to govern this great people of yours?"

Proverbs 21:30: There is no **wisdom**, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the Lord.

Colossians 1:9: For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the **wisdom** and understanding that the Spirit gives.

THE CHURCH GARDEN



As always the church flowers are stunning, thanks to Rachel and the team and especially Pat, who not only waters the flowers, but also keeps an eye on the garden from her eyrie across the road.

The picture on page 35 is from that lofty viewpoint.

Mike Dominiak, a **member of our fabulous gardening team** and a member of our Church, was presented with a certificate from Allen MacDonald, Vice President of the Rotary. **Mike is Citizen of the year 2024** for all the good work he does always helping people. Mike and Isabel are regular attenders at the Short afternoon Service.



Congratulations, and thanks Mike!



Rachel and the team; always thinking up new ideas!

HOLY TRINITY GUILD



Thank you, Joan, for the programme.

From Alison Wynd (Guild vice convenor)

The Guild's new Session begins on 7th October with a dedication on Sunday 6th October. We meet on Monday afternoons and we aim to have something of interest for everyone. We look forward to an early talk about Rymouth which is within our parish. It is home to adults with learning difficulties and Keith and Isobel Neilson were key to its opening. All members of the congregation are warmly invited to our meetings.

We have met through the summer with representatives of the Guilds of St Leonard's and St Mark's. Together we have arranged joint meetings and we have shared concerns. We look forward to enjoying each other's events such as coffee mornings and fairs and we make sure no arrangements conflict. We are moving towards a relationship of mutual support, while keeping our own organizations.

Date	Event	Speaker	Venue
Sunday 6th Oct	Guild dedication service		Church
Monday 7th Oct	History of the Lammas Fair	Alan Sturrock	Hall
Friday 11th Oct	Committee meeting	2.30 pm	Church
Monday 21st Oct	Rymouth: St Andrews own charity	Kate Douglas	Hall
Monday 4th Nov	Craft evening	Rosemary & Sheila	Hall
Monday 18th Nov	The Byre theatre	Jeremy Bone	
Saturday 30th Nov	Christmas fair 10 am		Church
Monday 9th Dec	Christmas celebration		Hall
2025			
Monday 13th Jan	Role of the Session Clerk	Mike Carslaw	Hall
Saturday 25th Jan	Visit to Guardbridge		Out
Monday 27th Jan	Burns night celebration		Hall
Monday 10th Feb	Wildlife in St Andrews	Eve	Hall
Monday 24th Feb	Journeys	Marion Paton	Hall
Thursday 6th Mar	Bare necessities project	Joint with St Mark's	StMarks
Monday 24th Mar	Youth work and AGM	Fiona Ramsay	Hall
Saturday 3rd May	Spring Fair 10am		Church

This poem was sent to me by a recent visitor from Texas with a heart for Scotland

For Freedom'

As sure as first light,
the silvery mist rises from
Scotland's moors and mountains and lingers
all the day, past midnight blue.
It is a perfumed haze,

A glimpse of the Son of Man himself, Jesus—Warrior and King—who walks
in thin air across the land.
His footprints drip in the mist with fragrance
as He lovingly lingers to awaken the seed of the Scottish righteous—
poets and soldiers, lovers and brothers brutally blood-bought with torn
flesh.

Arise, arise, oh, Scotland to sing the ancient song of salvation,
carved in beauty upon your meadows and shores.
The redemptive anecdote is whispered in the melody of the wind and gales
upon the salty sea.
His holy presence sheds grace up-and-over your heathered-highlands,
bogs, and green, rolling knolls
patterned with clear streams that race to the coast.
This glorious show is but an inky shadow and a chip of gold
that gleams from a bloody wooden cross.

Christ bled for freedom
to set the wild Scottish heart free.
It was for freedom that He etched His beloved sacrifice
upon the misty, mossy moors and thundering Scottish mountains.

Bonnie Saul Wilks

SPECIAL SERVICES

October 6th: Harvest

October 13th: Baptism and Admission of New Members, Ordination and admission of New Elders, Presentation of Long Service Certificates, Guest preacher Rev Fiona Smith, Principal Clerk to the general Assembly

November 3rd: Communion

November 10th: Remembrance Sunday. Rev Alastair Symington to conduct the service in HT. Rev Dr Jamie Walker to conduct the service in Dunino.

Both services to begin at 10:45am.

November 20th, 21st and 22nd: Recording for Tern television of **Watchnight Service**

*"It is with great pleasure and anticipation that preparation is now underway for the recording of **BBC Scotland's Christmas Eve Service** which, this year, will take place at Holy Trinity Church, and presented by Sally Magnusson. Although the recording will take place on November the 22nd, only a few days before St Andrews Night, the production team are hoping that those attending will come full of Christmas spirit and bring their best singing voices along with them.*



The Christmas Eve service, broadcast on BBC One Scotland, is a wonderful way to deliver the Christmas message to a great number of viewers who, for one reason or another, are unable to attend a service that night. Many viewers may have traditionally attended a Watchnight event but due to changes in circumstance are now unable to do so; others may be alone at that time and our programme is, we hope, a small way to extend warmth, friendship and the joys of the season to them at what can be a difficult time of year.

This year we have taken as a theme of the programme, "The Sea", and where better to film this event than in St Andrews: St Andrew, not only Scotland's patron Saint, but also the patron saint of fishermen, and as a town surrounded by fishing communities who for generations have made their livelihood, and faced the dangers, of the North Sea.

*We hope that everyone who is able to join us for the recording will thoroughly enjoy the experience. Like the movies, there will be lights,*¹³

cameras and hopefully lots of “action” in the form of hearty singing of a selection of Christmas Carol favourites. It may be we ask you to sing the same piece a couple of times, that’s to make sure we get shots of everyone belting it out. Alongside the congregational singing, when the final programme goes out there will other elements filmed before the service on Nov 22nd. We will be shooting some profiles of members of the local community who have a relationship to the sea which is also influenced by their faith. There will also be some fantastic additional performances from various choral groups (more details to follow) as well as Sally’s presenter links which will also be filmed after the main recording (when all the TV vans and trucks are out of the way!) Lastly, there will be readings from local young people which will be interspersed through the programme between all the wonderful music we hope to record.

Traditionally the broadcast starts at around 11:30pm and sees our viewers past midnight and into the start of Christmas Day. As with all BBC programmes if you miss the airing, or want to watch it again, it will go straight to iPlayer where anyone across the UK can watch and share the service either as it goes out, or after its first showing.

As a production we are very much looking forward to filming in the wonderful building that is Holy Trinity Church and are very aware of the history and tradition of the place. We are also very grateful to everyone who has extended us such a warm welcome and so much assistance already and look forward to meeting, seeing and (most importantly) hearing more of the congregation at our recording in November.

THE MINISTRY OF FLOWERS

Flowers are donated each week and distributed after the Sunday service to folk who are sick or housebound. (These are greatly appreciated by the recipients) If you would like to become part of the group please contact Rachel Raynor.



I would like to give thank all those fellow Church and Guild members who sent me cards, phone calls and flowers following my fall in July and other problems from then. It is nice to get back to Church and meet up again.

Elizabeth Laing

A PRAYER FOR STUDENTS (as they return)

Lord, I commit to you the plans for the term ahead...

Please shut the door on any that are not right.

Thank you that no one can shut the door against those plans that are of you.

Lord, most of all, help me to stay faithful in my intimate relationship with you as my friend, my King and my maker.

From 'Bible in One Year' by Nicky Gumbel 7th September 2024



UPDATE FROM HOLY TRINITY TRUST

DISABLED ACCESS TO JOHN KNOX PORCH

The designs produced by Nicoll Russell Studios (NRS) were reviewed by the Disabled Access Project Group on 19 August. Agreement was reached on all points at issue.

The project group now plans to complete its submission to Presbytery for approval for the Church to spend money on the works. Preparation of the submission is in the hands of Granger Brash. NRS are now ready to lodge a planning application (including listed building consent), and will do so once the submission to Presbytery has been made. Bob Archer will give NRS the go ahead at the appropriate time.

Meanwhile, Russell Cockburn has obtained approval from the Listed Places of Worship & Memorial Grants Team for VAT on all expenditure on the works (including professional fees) to be reclaimed.



OPENING THE CHURCH TO VISITORS

The Church has been open to visitors Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11am to 5pm, 6 June to 31 August (38 days or about 225 Guardian hours plus about 25 Church-opener/closer hours, say 250 hours in total).

Every Guardian slot in the rota was filled; this would not have been possible without the substantial help of volunteers from outwith the Church, John and Deirdre Aldous in particular.

Since the Perspex donation box was given greater prominence, the level of donations increased by about 50% on average. The 10-day moving average for daily donations now stands at about £125 per day. The total for

donations for the 13 weeks to 31 August is just short of £5,000. There has been some sampling of visitor numbers, and it is estimated that the weekly number is well in excess of 1,000.

The average donation per visitor is less than 40p. More attention needs to be given to improving this outcome.

It has been agreed to keep the Church open to visitors throughout September. Bob and Joan Archer are in charge of these arrangements.

EVENTS

With the start of September, the Events Programme will return to full swing. The first concert in the SCO's 2024-25 season will take place on 11 September. There are bookings from all the regular University and other local ensembles.

It is planned to hold another Christmas tree festival in the Church in December.

Graham Wynd



We're not the only Church of Scotland hosting events! Here's a picture of the Jazz concert last year in St Leonard's. Keep your eyes open for chances to interact with them and St Mark's (Ed)

BOARHILLS AND DUNINO



SUMMER VISITORS SHELTER IN CHURCH PORCH

The members of Dunino and Boarhills Church are always delighted to see the swallows arrive each year. They nest along the guttering but a few always take shelter in the church porch.

This year we have had three successful nests, one of them producing two broods. The picture is of the second brood. We hope they grow strong enough to make the long journey that will soon need to make.

Whilst we are always pleased to see them and watch their progress, we do have to find ways of trying to keep the area as clean as possible by trying to deal with the large number droppings. Currently the nests have large wooden cheese boxes full of sawdust under them. This is somewhat successful but the little ones 'aim' is not always good!

Thanks to Ann Fairbairn for keeping our path to the church looking lovely at different times of the year. She has competition from the moles, who want to dig up the grass. Unfortunately, Fife Council mowed the grass before she could collect the soil!!

You are welcome to worship with us any Sunday at 9:45am.



Katherine Mathieson

A challenging scripture

Paul writes that we are 'Christ's ambassadors' (2 Corinthians 5:20). The Greek word translated as 'ambassador' shares the same root as 'presbyter', which is one of the words used to describe church leaders.

Whether you are in a recognised leadership role in the church or not, you are an ambassador of Christ, with the extraordinary privilege and responsibility of representing Jesus in this world. You are God's representative on earth. Through you, God makes his appeal for others to be reconciled to God; to receive his forgiveness, love and grace. Appeal to them to become friends of God and ambassadors themselves. As royal ambassadors, act with diplomacy and skill because you are representing Christ on earth.

PROPERTY



Members of the Fabric and Finance committee (with session and presbytery permissions) have decided to sell various surplus church pews. Anyone interested please contact Bob Archer.



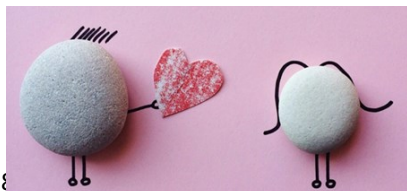
With Session approval our small property subcommittee is progressing with the plans to develop a “sloping ground” (a ramp to you and me!) at the entrance to the John Knox porch. One thing is bemusing us in regard to the large stone ‘slab’ on the existing pathway and this will create a great, if not fascinating ‘what’s there’ as it gets lifted ahead of work (sometime in the future...) and I wondered, **does anyone**

at all know if there is any reason why this slab is there? Perhaps it is just a simple ‘well. it was there before’...the mind boggles...

And our newest acquisition ...When the organ was undergoing a BIG renovation in 2008 Tom Duncan bought a personal organ which was used for services at that time.

When Tom died, he left it to Marjorie (our organist), but she doesn’t have room for it at home and she has donated it to the church. *(Thanks, Marjorie!)*

It has been installed in the Hunter Memorial aisle and is already in use for the Short Friday afternoon services.



Should we be considering other ‘organ donations’, to individuals or to other churches in the town?

PRAYER

The Presbytery prayer group continues to meet every Tuesday morning at 9am on Zoom. It is led by Irene Ure from St Margaret's, Glenrothes. Please feel free to join for half an hour any Tuesday- and meet some new friends from the whole of Fife.

The Zoom site is

[https://zoom.us/j/3175228773?
pwd=SjJpWmlqWGVQSGlleUFleTd6TXEyZz09](https://zoom.us/j/3175228773?pwd=SjJpWmlqWGVQSGlleUFleTd6TXEyZz09)

Our own Prayer team

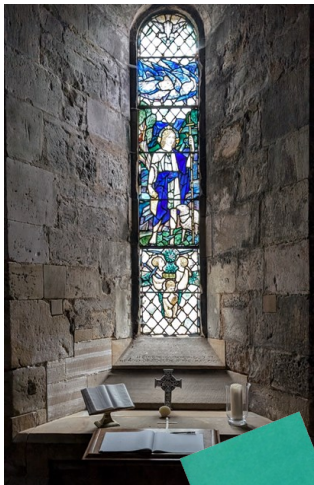
Please remember to let me know of those known or dear to you who are in need of prayer.

Answers to prayer are also a great encouragement, so let me know.

Everything is confidential.



Prayer in the Church



It would be good if on occasion we offered prayer stations for folk to take time and meditate.

There are some wonderful resources available. Would anyone like to take up the challenge?

These little booklets are available in the church for those who wish to know more about prayer.

Guardians may want to offer one to visitors who express a need.

An example of a prayer station.

(You could even set one up in your own home.)

Take a few pieces of wood and some twine; quietly make a simple holding cross.

As you wind the twine round the wood name five people you want to bring before to God.



Sit or walk while holding that cross and ask the Lord to bring the five people that you have named before him to know his love for them. Keep the cross near you at home and pray using it daily.

If anyone feels they'd like to expand on this; resources are available. They have been used in many other churches in Scotland. Contact the editor.

St Margaret's church in Glenrothes, now part of the new congregation of Heart of Fife Parish Church, a Union of SIX churches, has a Prayer room for both individual and corporate prayer. Sadly , we don't have the facilities in the Holy Trinity building...



BUT... could we find such a space between the three St Andrews congregations?

Or (Radical suggestion) could we form a joint prayer meeting to find a way through the difficulties we now face.

"All heaven waits with bated breath for saints on earth to pray" (Song)

HISTORY OF HOLY TRINITY

Not everyone knows the history of the church. From just after the reformation until the end of the nineteenth century it was gradually remodelled to reflect the serious nature of Presbyterian services. The pulpit was moved to the side, the altar removed and all 'frivolous or idolatrous' decoration removed. This picture shows the church over those centuries.



Thanks to the efforts of the Playfair family and the chief fund-raiser, Mr Grace, the church was again remodelled into the building that you see today. At that time the church could seat 3000 worshippers.

We've got a wee way to go to reach these figures again!

The rebuilt church was re-dedicated on St Andrews day 1909. A beautifully produced, bound, Order of Service is available for those who are interested to see it.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,
ST. ANDREWS
ORDER OF SERVICE AT THE
RE-DEDICATION
ST. ANDREW'S DAY 1909

Ron has been reinvestigating the sculptures in the church and also the carved bosses on the church ceiling.

He writes: The slanted mirror in the aisle to view the carvings was presented to Holy Trinity by the Boys Brigade to celebrate their centenary year.



The list is too long to reproduce here, but here are the roof bosses. We'll eventually make the full details available as a booklet.

The Ceilings.

The Nave, beginning at the west end: in centre rows of bosses, the Life of Christ; on the side rows, Old Testament Subjects.

SOUTH	CENTRE	NORTH
Angel	David	Angel
Gideon’s Fleece	The Annunciation	Eve Tempted
Aaron’s Rod bidding	The Nativity	Moses and Burning Bush
Crossing the Red Sea	The Baptism	Noah’s Ark
Adam and Eve Tempted	The Temptation	Esau Selling Birthright
Elijah’s Translation	The Transfiguration	Moses Descending the Mount
The Brazen Serpent	The Crucifixion	Abraham offering Isaac
Jonah and Whale	The Resurrection	Samson and Gates of Gaza
Angels	Christ in Glory	Angels

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Hello again, girls and boys,

Jesus taught us some amazing things; for example, “Love your neighbour” is a great life-lesson to remember. And Jesus described himself to his followers in seven ways, each one starting with “I am...” Let's look at four of them – the last one will test your skills!

“I am the bread of life”: Jesus said this after feeding 5,000 people, but he wants us to know that only he can satisfy us spiritually. And he said that everyone who eats the ‘living bread’ sent by God will be in heaven forever. Tremendous!

“I am the light of the world”: Jesus said that whoever follows him won't walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. Wonderful!

“I am the way, the truth, and the life”: Jesus said that no one can come to God, his father, except by loving and following Jesus. Worth remembering.

And lastly, Jesus spoke about sheep, who can face storms, steep slopes, thieves, and danger from wild animals. They totally rely on someone to look after them. Jesus said he was sent to care for people, just as a trustworthy person always cares for his sheep. To find out his actual words, you have to de-code the numbers below. Here's the clue: 1=A, 2=B, 3=C and so on. Good luck!

9 1-13 20-8-5 7-15-15-4 19-8-5-16-8-5-18-4

Bye for now

Granger Brash



*HM Queen Elizabeth
11 1953
This Tassel is made of
Lullingstone Silk
which will be used in
Coronation Robes*

Children, this tassel was found in the safe in the Session house. It dates from the coronation of our late Queen.

It's amazing how many things we keep finding in this REALLY OLD

BOARHILLS, DUNINO & HOLY TRINITY KID'S CLUB

SUN FUN: FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH @ HOLY TRINITY.



Kids' Club started up again after the Summer Holidays. We've just celebrated our FIRST ANNIVERSARY. We headed to Pizza Express after the Minister's address and the second hymn.

Over a juice, we formed a discussion circle on the Sermon and the idea of "GO" and "DO" and "FLYING". We talked of two men with strong faith like St Paul and Eric Liddell. After a bible reading, a prayer and craft we all met up an hour later after church at The Himalayas for Putting. We always finish with a relevant game!



This was an opportunity for kids' parents to meet up. The runaway winners were our Minister, Marion, and our Interim Moderator, Alastair Symington – a

formidable team, closely followed in second place by "Mother and Daughter" Team, Elle and her Mum.

Sending best wishes
from Co-Leaders, Janie,
Elizabeth, Joan and Granger

TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT
OUR KIDS' CLUB
COME AND CHECK IT OUT



KID'S HOLIDAY CLUB



Report by Julie Torrance



Julie's letter, on behalf of the Team, was received this week. It is fulsome in its praise for our support of this Joint churches' initiative. The full text will be available in the session minute.

This year, our joint churches Holiday club was held the week commencing Monday 13th August 2024, in the playing field of Canongatc PS. Our team was comprised of 29 adults and 22 teenage helpers, who represented 6 different churches/denominations in town. We were thrilled to be supported by Holy Trinity and St Mark's, both congregations donated funds to the mission, provided baked goods for the volunteers and prayed for the work we were doing. 130 children attended throughout the week. Our registration form included a question on whether the child had any links to a church- from this we were able to ascertain that over 50% of the children attending the club had no links to any church.

This year our theme was 'shipwrecked'. Pirates Heave Ho (Julie Torrance) and Yo Ho (Dave Redfern) had spent years stranded on a desert Island, and one day they woke to find that 130 children, and a bunch of adults and teens, had also been shipwrecked- so they made it their mission to help everyone by teaching them survival skills. We had our daily exercise, to keep us ready for whatever the island had in store, we sang sea shanties, and had a lot of silly fun.

But importantly, we learned how God is with us wherever we go, using Joshua 1:9 as our memory verse for the week. 'Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.—

Our storyteller, Jem, recounted stories from the time she was shipwrecked on a desert island with the infamous prisoner Paul- we learned that no matter what we have done, or who we are, that God wants to become our friend, and that he is the greatest friend to have. Our Theme song was 'Stand Together', and the children's little voices rang out across the playing fields:

"We will Wag, trust in God alone, we shall stand, stand upon his word, and whatever comes our way, we are strong, and we are brave! His Truth, truth will be our guide, through the day, and the darkest night, our God will give us strength, we are strong and we are brave!"

Heaps of fun was had throughout the 4 mornings- with funny skits, songs and actions, crafts and games and of course leaders having to walk the plank into a pool of water. We have received lots of very positive feedback from families. The team is thankful for all those that made it possible, and we ask for continued prayer for the relationships that have been formed and that the seeds that have been sown would take root!



If you would like to see more pictures, you can find them on the 'St Andrews Churches Holiday Club' Facebook Page.

BOARHILLS, DUNINO & HOLY TRINITY CARE GROUP + BEFRIENDERS

KEEPING IN TOUCH

As Autumn approaches we look forward to the Short Harvest Thanksgiving Service on 4 October. Please tell your friends about our Monthly Short Friday Services at Holy Trinity. They take place on the FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH, and you are assured of a **WARM WELCOME**.

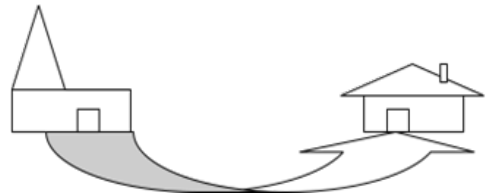


We look forward to seeing you at 3pm in the H & M Aisle. Bring a friend, family member or carer. After the service there's an opportunity to have a tea or coffee and a blether.

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

1 November – Short Service

6 December – Short Carol Service



SEE YOU ALL SOON.

We aim to keep people in touch with the church. If you, or you know of anyone, who would like us to contact them, please ring me in confidence, Janie Brash.

BOOKS

For those of you with broad tastes in Christian books, here are three that I have been reading this Summer.

James S Stewart's book on '**The wind of the Spirit**' is a compilation of lectures given at New College in the 1970s and is pure gold.

'**A Nation reborn**' gives a very clear and factual account of the history of Israel from the Balfour declaration of 1917 to date.

And RT Kendall's book on forgiving yourself will challenge many of us.



THOUGHTS 1

Holding Dad's hammer

If you watched the Antiques Roadshow a week or two ago you will probably remember someone bringing in Queen Victoria's lavatory seat for display. This evoked some laughter and the expert did not suggest a possible value at auction. He did however say that it was surprising how much people seem to value objects that have belonged to important or well-loved people. This led me to think about the church's use of relics in the past to help members to learn about, and feel close to Jesus and the saints. Someone once said that if all the pieces of the True Cross in circulation in the Middle Ages had been gathered together, they would form a small wood, while fragments of the cup used at the last Supper would have filled a dozen kitchen cabinets. But in a less scientific age with fewer educated people and possibly a church hierarchy readier to hoodwink the gullible, it's not really surprising. What is surprising is the way that



today normally intelligent people value things which have belonged to and been used by people they love or think of as important. The desire to own something which has been close to someone special, like Queen Victoria's loo seat or Dad's hammer or, for me, my mother's palette knife, is something deep inside most of us, religious or not. It reflects our deep, deep desire to feel close to those we love and revere.

So, I ask, how do we feel about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit? How deep is our desire to get closer to them and to know them better? And how good are our teachers and preachers at helping us to fill this gap? It ought to be easy but somehow there can be a barrier, not just the feeling that our God is too holy and too far away to share our company and our thoughts but the fact that some of us have never been helped to get closer to God. Getting close to God takes time and commitment, just as it takes time to woo a lover or to be a parent to a newborn. But don't despair. God is desperate to make contact

with us, he made us and loves us and is ready to respond to every cry we make to him. That's why so many find him when they are in dire trouble. But he's there even when all seems well, waiting for us to find time to spend with him and to learn more about him. That's what our church services should be about: worshipping and praising together and learning more about what God is really like, so when we make time to sit with him, talking, listening, sharing, we know when we have made contact and know how to get to know him better. That's what good sermons and teaching do and that's why so many of us are in church every week.

Bunny Slack

CHOIR AND MUSIC NEWS



Our Choir returns this month. Several of last year's choristers are returning and auditions for new members are in progress.

They will be needed during the special services this autumn, especially "Songs of Praise".

(Apologies for duplicating Marion, but then she does more work than most!)



OVERSEAS OUTREACH



Ron passed on this letter from Jules in Bolivia (with whom he keeps in regular touch on our behalf)

The Prison Fellowship Oruro Week of Prayer ran from Sunday 11th to Sunday 18th of August. Each day a prayer request was published in our WhatsApp group and on social media. We are grateful for all those who prayed with us for prisoners, their families, those who work in the justice system and crime victims.

There were three visits to local churches where our volunteers are members. On Sunday 11th S. and I went out to Realenga to the *Dios de la Profecía* church. Realenga is a scattered community of adobe homes housing around 350 people about six kilometres from Machacamarca.

The church is on a small empty square with buildings on two sides and a few trees, bare in these winter months. The *pastora* and A. were waiting for us and after kneeling to pray on the strip of cloth woven from llama wool at the front of the church, tasks were assigned. A. was to preach and then we would pray for different aspects of the prison work. The *pastora* was anxious to know what I would do, and discovering I had brought my Quechua hymnbook decided I was best equipped to lead the worship. A. banged the drum covered with llama hide and we sang. A few other people arrived, S. joined me at the front and someone played a tuneless keyboard which made the singing more challenging. **A. talked about Onesimus in the Bible, how he went from being useless to useful and the change we hope to see God make in prisoners' lives.** There were nine of us by then and we stood in a circle praying for prisoners and their families and children before the service finished up with an offering and notices.

On Tuesday nine volunteers visited both prisons and the young offender centre to acknowledge the work of the prison staff, police and social services employees. We met with the workers and police, talked about Onesimus, shared refreshments we had prepared and prayed for them. They also wrote down prayer requests so that we could continue praying for them afterwards. **The San Pedro Prison Governor thanked us for noticing the work that they do and said that they were more accustomed to being criticised than appreciated.** At the young offender centre, yet another administrator had taken over that day as the instability continues. She is a Christian and welcomed us gladly.

The *Chancadora* area of Oruro is in the hills opposite the *San José* mine. A ***chancadora* is a person (normally a woman) who breaks rocks containing tin down using a hammer**, although there is very little mining activity there now. On Thursday night J.L., C. and I visited the *Hosanna* church (*Asambleas de Dios*) there where M. is a member. The congregation was about twenty-five people and again we sang, **M. talked about Onesimus and then we had four prayer stations focused on transformation of prisoners' lives**, the Angel Tree Centre, victims of crime and those who work in the justice system before the service concluded with the offering and notices.

In the evening of Sunday 18th, C., A., J., and I joined H. who is a member of the *Voz de Cristo* Church (*Unión Cristiana Evangélica*) in the south of the city. I was part of that church the first six years I was in Oruro and some of the teenagers I taught in Sunday School, along with their families, were among the thirty people present. They have supported the Angel Tree Centre over the years and we tried to encourage the young people to help us with the Angel Tree camp this year

LOCAL OUTREACH

This is the flyer which has been given out to students during Fresher's week.
(Thanks to Steve and the outreach group)

BOARHILLS, DUNINO & ST ANDREWS: HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, ST ANDREWS

Give church a go?
Give Holy Trinity Church a go.
Where you can be part of a Christian family.
Where you can adventure in faith...
and learn more about...

God's Love
And His Son...
Jesus Christ
And be inspired by...
The Holy Spirit



Holy Trinity Church of Scotland, South Street, St Andrews
Charity Number: SC007735
Facebook search for Boarhills, Dunino and St Andrews Holy Trinity Church of Scotland
Website: www.holyt.co.uk
Email: holytrinitystandrews@gmail.com
Phone: 01334 47937



HOLY TRINITY:
Sunday Service at 11:15am
Monthly Afternoon Service on the 1st Friday of the month at 3pm
Regular Concerts
Available for weddings & funerals

HOLY TRINITY CHOR:
Choral Scholarships available
Commitments on Sundays September to December & January to May
Contact HT for more details

HOLY TRINITY HALLS:
HT Halls in Queens Terrace, hired by regular groups each week and available for hire by student groups for ceilidhs etc.
Contact HT for details.

LITTLE CHERUBS:
A term-time weekly group for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers, held in the HT halls. For more info contact littlecherubstandrews@gmail.com

DUNINO CHURCH:
Sunday Service at 09:45am
Available for weddings and funerals.
Contact HT for more details.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT:
A Monthly family friendly movie night at 6pm in HT Halls. For more info contact familymovienight.standrewe@gmail.com

"Welcome to BD&HT"



THE WIDER CHURCH IN SCOTLAND

Did you miss this?



‘Refuel on the Road’ in January.

Do you recognise the church? *you*



And this: ‘Praise and prayer’ in Cupar this month



The flyer ...
and the reality—
40 folk from all over Fife



There’s a lot going on outside our
Parish and our ‘Tradition’.



Why not come along to this
concert on the **9th of October?**

*I heard them last year- they are
amazing (Ed)*

CHANGES TO THE PARISH REGISTER

WEDDINGS

6 July	Neve Stuart to Kevin Graham	Holy Trinity
10 August	Amy Sinclair to Joe Waters	Holy Trinity
14 August	Caitlin Buchanan to Christian Hildebrand	Holy Trinity

FUNERALS

23 July	Irene Shepherd	Perth
31 July	Leslie Tulloch (Greek Orthodox)	Holy Trinity
6 August	Irene Cook (burial of ashes)	Western Cemetery
16 August	Robert Caulfield	Holy Trinity
26 August	Stuart Carrie	Brewsterwells

A very unusual funeral took place in Holy Trinity in July. This was a Greek orthodox funeral, taken by the pastor Rev Avrahami. The congregation stood for the whole service and the church was filled with incense from his censer.



It was a privilege to have been on duty that day. *Mike*



CHURCH HOLIDAYS



Hundreds enjoyed a week of praise, prayer and teaching at the Refuel conference in Fochabers in July

No contributions from you this quarter - perhaps next time. But if not, Marion will be showing pictures of her holidays at the Guild meeting on 24th February next year.

This is not how to holiday in Scotland!



AND ONCE MORE...



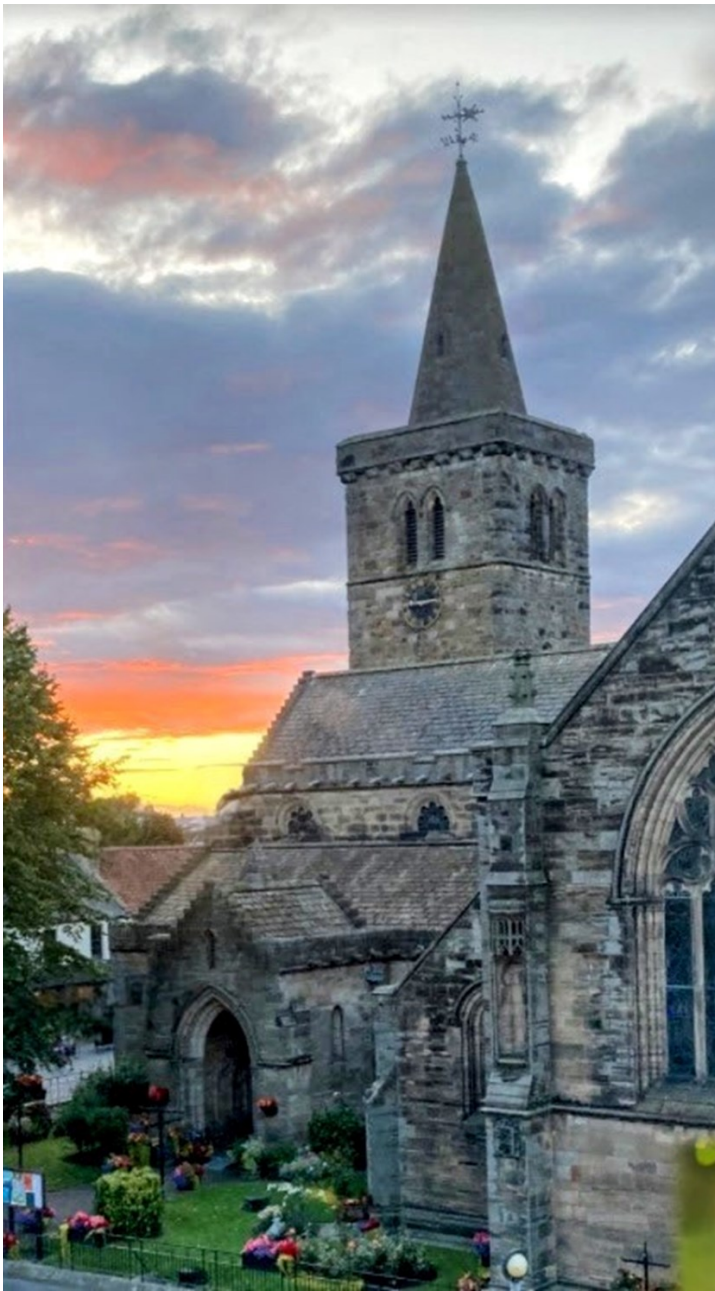
You will have noticed that, again, there is rather a lot of text in this edition, but it is an attempt to keep you as informed as possible. Could I encourage you, again to send in stories, including visits to other churches or Christian events or your own experiences of God's goodness here in St Andrews over the summer

Or how about some original artwork?

Here is a self-portrait drawn by a seagull on our street!

(You are allowed to laugh!)





*This picture,
taken by Pat
shows the
evening sky
as Autumn
approaches.*

Sometimes
the animals
are more
perceptive
than us,
preparing for
the long dark
days



Copy for the Christmas Magazine by 14th November please!

**Boarhills, Dunino and St Andrews: Holy Trinity Church of Scotland
South Street, St Andrews KY16 9NL
Charity No: SC017173**