



Boarhills, Dunino & St Andrews: Holy Trinity

Church of Scotland

Newsletter

March 2026

Our 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 No SCO17173

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Dear all,

The period between Christmas and Easter can be a less exciting time than others, but the life of the congregation goes on and perhaps we can be lulled into accepting the sameness; “This is what we do” and “This is how we do it”.

But the world is changing, and the church with it. If we don't keep up we'll be left behind.

A glance at the Presbytery newsletter shows that the newer united congregations are “going for it!” and that's just in the much-maligned Church of Scotland. Two examples are included here, from Belhaven and Spott (Dunbar) and St Andrews Leckie in Peebles. There is even more going on in St Andrews in our sister denominations, including the Free church who meet in our church hall with two morning services and an evening service! Vineyard is thriving, Cornerstone, in their new venue in the rebuilt Madras development, and the Baptists, who need a bigger building.

Mike Carshaw and his team have shown what can be done on the secular track, with a wonderful series of concerts in the last six months. BUT what about the spiritual side? The Praise and Prayer event was a huge success according to those who attended, **but there were only three people from our congregation.**

When I talk to folk from other churches in the town I get the same advice. “Start home groups and Bible studies, develop a worship team (We had one, not so long ago) and, most important, Pray! (Tennyson knew this “There are more things wrought by prayer ...”)

And UNITY. St Leonard's, with Cameron and St Mark's have now united, but what sort of witness is this, that the Church of Scotland congregations are not united? I love this congregation, but we must get out of the boat and walk on the water.

Have you something to contribute other than just turning up on a Sunday morning? Could you help with bringing people who have transport difficulties to services and other events? (I must put my hand up here and confess I don't often. On one occasion we did and we got a puncture!!).

Interestingly, there are a number of younger folk who come to the morning services. If you are one of these, please feel welcome. A greeting at the door is a good thing, especially if accompanied by a smile from someone who has remembered your name, but there is, or should be, much more than this for you as a member of the congregation. much more than this. Jesus had the same difficulties with His disciples. It took them three years of teaching, a crucifixion and a resurrection before they were ready to go out and change the world. We only have a little longer than that to turn the tide.

Are you up for it?

Blessings, Mike (S)



MARION'S PASTORAL LETTER

Dear Friends,

Almost every morning I look at the newspaper headlines online while I am having breakfast. This gives me the opportunity to scan many different newspapers from all parts of the world, and to see what is concerning many parts of our global human family. Of course, climate change comes high on the list of topics, and this is usually accompanied by pleas to reuse and recycle, and not waste our resources, as well as pleas to help those most affected by climate change, in whatever way we can. And of course, we can all make a difference in our own small ways both at home and in our church buildings by not wasting our resources.



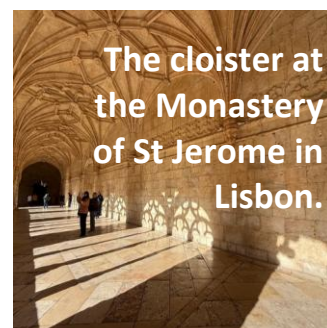
Next on the list comes wars including the ongoing tragedies of Ukraine and the Middle East, as well as tragedies like the shooting in Canada last week, and the attempted murder of teenagers in London. It seems that almost every day somebody somewhere wants to kill somebody else, and we ask ourselves why this should be. Sometimes the answer is very obvious, but obvious or not, the Scriptures tell us it can never be right to take away a life.

And then comes scandal, and we all know that at the moment our royal family, and our government are being torn apart by scandals of all sorts. Our newspapers and social media all seem to thrive on such scandals. So, what is scandal, and why does everyone find it so fascinating? The dictionary defines it as 'actions or events that cause shock and strong moral or legal disapproval and outrage.' I suppose people find it fascinating so long as it concerns somebody else, not them. As we look to the future it is hard not to be dragged down by all of this. But look to the future we must, for we cannot change the past, but we can improve the future.

The Apostle Paul has some good advice when he says **'For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will ever be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord'**.

As disciples of Jesus Christ in our communities, if we can remember how much we are all loved and valued, and remember **our calling to reflect Christ's light and love into our world**, if we do so we will be able to change our small part of it. And if we can remember to pray for all those who do not know Christ and find life more difficult than they can cope with, changes will come. Perhaps not quickly, but they will come. And as changes come so the effect spreads.

Thought you might like this photo of the cloister at the Monastery of St Jerome in Lisbon. We are at present in the season of Lent, that time of year when we in some sense seek to walk the way of the cross with Jesus. It was



a very dark time for him. But he did not give up and take the easy way out, although he did have opportunities to do so. We might think that the end result was the tragedy of the cross. But out of death came the glorious resurrection, new life that brought with it new hope for all people. Our world is in a difficult place at the moment for all sorts of reasons. But as followers of Christ we know that there is always hope for the future as long as we do our bit in his name to make that hope a reality.

A very happy Easter to all, with every blessing, **Marion**

FROM THE SESSION CLERK



Firstly - huge thanks to everyone involved in the activities of Boarhills, Dunino and St Andrews: Holy Trinity. There are lots of opportunities out there, whether in worship; outreach; pastoral support; event stewarding and 'open church'.

We are now out of guardianship and starting the process to recruit a 0.5FTE Minister of Word and Sacrament on a three-year reviewable tenure. Part of that process is compiling a parish profile and finalising the electoral roll - so there is still some way to go.

If you have any thoughts about what should go into the parish profile, let me know. I am particularly interested in your views on those areas of mission and activity that you feel we should be focusing on over the next three years or so. Two aspects I regularly get asked about are the Fife Pilgrim Way Partnership and the Signature Church Network. So.....I thought the below 'FAQs' may be helpful if you are asked about them too.

Signature Church Network (SCN)

What is a signature church?

- *The definition of a signature church stipulates that a church must be:*
- *category A in the Presbytery Mission Plan;*
- *of Cathedral style in proportion with a very high reinstatement value;*
- *HES A-Listed;*
- *located in a prominent setting with high footfall;*
- *be owned by the Church of Scotland.*

The purpose of this network is to help the constituent congregations flourish in their life as visitor attractions and story tellers about Christianity in Scotland to the wider public; to improve their sustainability as congregations, and to mutually support each other in this task with the input of partner organisations that wish to give assistance to the Network.

Which churches are in the SCN?

Dornoch Cathedral; Dunfermline Abbey; Dunkeld Cathedral; Greyfriars Edinburgh; Holy Trinity, St Andrews; Holy Rude, Stirling; Paisley Abbey; St Giles, Edinburgh; St John's, Perth; St Michael's, Linlithgow; St Machars, Aberdeen; St Mary's, Haddington

Who attends the SCN meetings?

Representatives of each of the churches as well as representatives from 121/General Trustees, HES and the National Heritage Lottery Fund, National Churches Trust etc.

What is the focus of the SCN meetings?

The primary themes for discussion so far have been:

Events as a Source of Income; Enhancing the Visitor Experience; Fundraising and Strategic Financial Planning; Maintaining Active Worshipping Communities

What are the opportunities for the SCN?

There are a number of opportunities coming up, e.g. gaining Heritage Lottery funding for an SGN manager; a clearing house for/source of ideas/advice/expertise etc.

Fife Pilgrim Way Partnership (FPWP)

What is the FPWP?

The FPWP is a group of representatives of organisations with an interest in developing the Fife Pilgrim Way. The focus of the group is primarily on the economic development through increased tourism to the benefit of towns and villages on the route. A key driver for the partnership has been the focus on improving tourism and visitor numbers to Dunfermline with a focus on the Abbey in particular, though with added benefits for key stopping points on the route at Markinch, Ceres and St Andrews.

What is the role of Holy Trinity in the FPWP?

taken from <https://fifecoastandcountryside.co.uk/walks/fife-pilgrim-way/ceres-to-st-andrews/>

The final leg of the Fife Pilgrim Way journey is just 9.5 miles or 15km leaving the charming village of Ceres and arriving outside St Andrews Cathedral just as medieval pilgrims would have done. Walk a little further, down South Street, to find the final interpretation panel in the grounds of Holy Trinity Church, which makes for a special photo opportunity. This ancient town kirk of St Andrews, which has stood on its central site in South Street for over 600 years, has been welcoming pilgrims for many centuries and is well poised to welcome modern-day walkers. So...lots of potential!



This ancient town kirk of St Andrews, which has stood on its central site in South Street for over 600 years, has been welcoming pilgrims for many centuries and is well poised to welcome modern-day walkers. So...lots of potential!

Who attends the FPWP meetings?

Meetings are attended by representatives of Fife Coast and Countryside Trust; Fife Council; Visit Scotland; Historic Environment Scotland; Scottish Community Tourism (SCOTO); Grant Williams of 'Wellbeing through Heritage' (Dunfermline); Dunfermline Abbey; St Drostan's Markinch; Ceres; Holy Trinity and others.

As ever, get in touch if you want to get more involved in church life - htsessionclerk@gmail.com

A personal highlight for the last quarter was the 'prayer and praise' worship hosted at Holy Trinity on 23 January - super to meet people from all over Fife (around 50 packed into the H&M aisle) and celebrate together with song and prayer (see below).

It would be wonderful if this could become a regular event.

Dr Michael Carslaw, Session Clerk

"I bless you in the name of Jesus that God may reveal to you everything you need to know to enable you to be fully who you were made to be, and that you receive everything you need to know, so that the fullness of life may be released to you". Roy Godwin in "The Way of Blessing"

FROM THE INTERIM MODERATOR

Dear Friends

I don't need to tell you how fortunate we all are to be associated with such a magnificent church as Holy Trinity as well as with the wonderfully atmospheric church in Dunino.

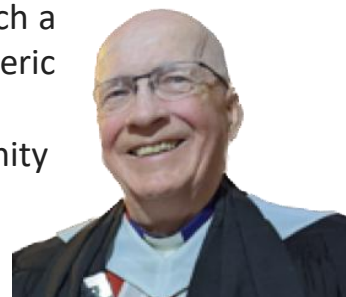
Not long ago the General Assembly recognised the significance of Holy Trinity by designating us as one of Scotland's 'significant charges'. We need to make ourselves more available to the wider public and show who we are and what we offer. As you may know we are open at periods during the summer and regularly welcome hundreds of visitors from all over the world, as well as from St Andrews, on a daily basis.

I would like us to be able to do this more often. The more we are open the better it is for us. To that end, I need some more volunteers to welcome visitors to the church.

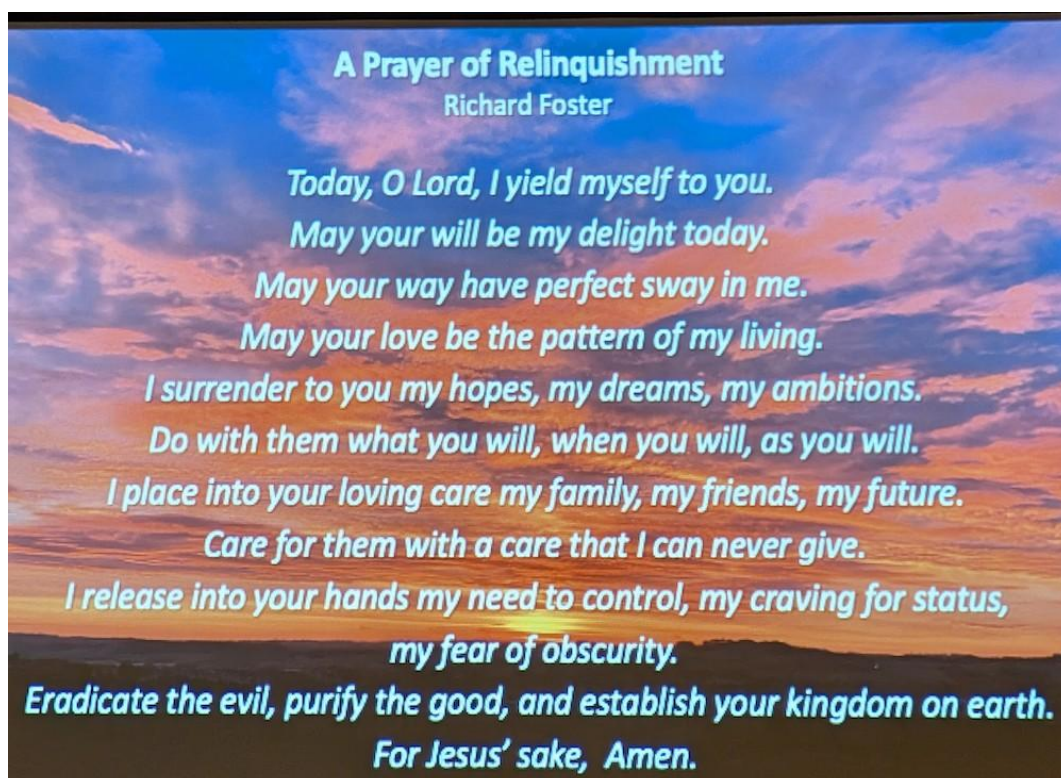
You do not need to have a historical grasp on the details of our story. You simply need to make people feel welcome when they enter. The normal duty is for two hours and you can offer that once a week or twice a week or once a fortnight or whatever you wish. Please listen to this appeal and make a response. We have a great building and an even greater story to share. So thank you for reading this and, I hope, for responding.

Yours in Christ,

Alastair H Symington (Interim Moderator)



PRAYER



FROM BOB ARCHER (F&F CONVENER)



Dear All,

For those of you who might be concerned about the removal of some pews, illustrated in the last edition, be assured that the Men's shed have already come up trumps.

The first item to be manufactured from the men's shed is the beautiful desktop lectern, which enables Marion to read more

easily from the communion table. We are most grateful to the skilled cabinet makers for this.



They are now working on a curved notice board to hold the church history - a difficult task.

Here are John and Andy working on the former for the curved frame, which will be made from laminates of the oak.

John Taylor is at last starting to install the new sound system, which will bring us into the 21st century.



It's that time of year when we have to produce a number of annual reports to Presbytery and I can assure you that these are all in hand. The property register has been signed off. Thanks to Russell and Victoria for the finance figures and Helen and others for their hard work.

Bob

THE GUILD



The Christmas fair was again a great success. Thanks for all who contributed. As usual, the catering team excelled!



Our Guild is 95 years old. This is a lovely picture from our 75 Anniversary with some very well known faces.



St Andrews Holy Trinity Church Guild celebrated its 75th anniversary recently. Pictured are past presidents Jean Orr and Isobel Neilson, president Margaret Horton, Alison Twaddle (general secretary, Church of Scotland Guild), and past presidents Irene Redford and Dorothy Armour.

Our fortnightly meetings continue to attract members and guests with a very exciting range of talks and social topics. The Guild is always looking for new members if you would like to join us.

There is a syllabus at the back of the Church, with the committee's names.

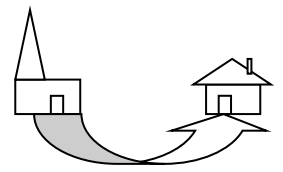
We have our Guild Spring Fair on Saturday 9 May at 10:00 in the Church, come along and support the Guild, have a cup of tea or a coffee, and a blether.

From Karen Gillon, General Secretary Church of Scotland Offices.

Your gift of £1,000 for the projects has been safely received and I should be grateful if you would pass on our thanks to everyone who contributed through their interest, hard work and generosity. Together we can make a real difference to the lives of those in need. Thank you

PASTORAL CARE

BOARHILLS, DUNINO AND HOLY TRINITY CARE GROUP

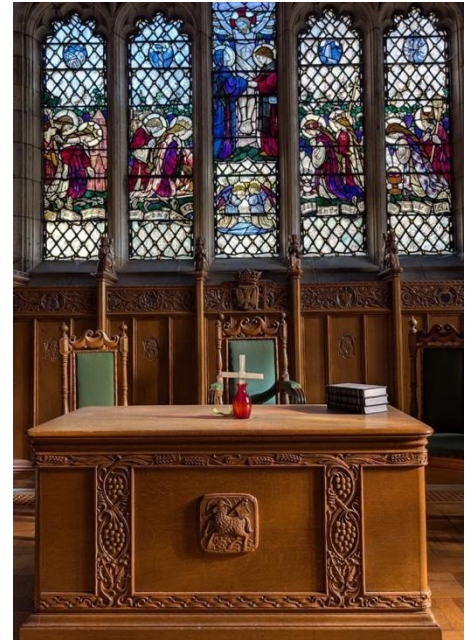


Short Friday afternoon services

These Services have been taking place for over 8 years now. They are followed by coffee, tea or juice, cake and chat – join us whatever your age!



If you would like to join our happy band of helpers at any of these services, do get in touch – all are welcome.



Our Pastoral Team aim to keep people in touch with our church

At the **Crysanthemum Service**, the Hunter Aisle was full of these very colourful flowers and bunches were delivered to those who were unwell and unable to come. Those at the **Service of Harvest Thanksgiving** were treated to mini fudge donuts with their tea and coffee. Rachel Raynor, as always did us proud in decorating the Communion Table for the Short Service, and afterwards set it all up again in the main church. Richard McFarlane again assisted the Minister at our **Short Communion Service**. Thank you, Richard. This was combined with a **Service of Remembrance** and was very moving. A German couple joined us and were warmly welcomed.

Do get in touch, in confidence, if you can't join us for whatever reason, and you would like a visit. This is just a small part of what goes on within our busy church family. Thank you, Marion and our Director of Music, Marjorie. These could not happen without those of who join us in worship and fellowship and we look forward to seeing you at our next services:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 3 APRIL | GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE |
| 1 MAY | SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING +REMEMBERING |
| 5 JUNE | PENTECOST SERVICE |

Janie Brash, convener Pastoral group and befrienders

PRAYER

World Day of Prayer Services across Presbytery

This year's World Day of Prayer took place on Friday 6 March. It was produced by the women of Nigeria and the theme was: 'I will give you rest: Come' from Matthew 11: 28.



Nigerian artefacts in St Leonards

The venue in St Andrews was the St Leonards building, the St Andrews New Kirk. It was an inspiring service of prayer and worship, led by members of different congregations. We were addressed by Justina Oluwajuwonlo, a Nigerian, Yoruba and a Christian currently studying in St Andrews. Here is an excerpt from her address:

"I was brought up in a Christian home and with a strong biblical foundation rooted in the love of Christ and the gospel of the kingdom of God and this is my testimony on the theme, 'Come, I will give thee rest'. This to me is not a call to comfort alone but an invitation spoken into weariness, an invitation Nigeria deeply understands.

*Christianity in Nigeria has grown remarkably over the past century to become one of the largest Christian populations in the world. However, the Church in Nigeria faces prosecution and persecution, predominantly in the northern parts of the country, where Christians have endured violence, displacement and where faith has been tested not in comfort but in crisis. In these contexts, 'Come, I will give the rest' is not metaphorical. It is hope! A hope an average Nigerian prays for daily. But persecution is not the only challenge. There is also internal strain. The prosperity gospel has sometimes overshadowed the call to sacrificial discipleship. The church is more focused on prosperity and motivational message rather than the gospel of love and the kingdom of heaven. Denominational rivalry has also weakened collective witness to the gospel of Christ; we are now divided when we ought to be united preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God to come and spreading the love of God. **However, this not a Nigeria alone problem. Across the world, Christianity stands at a crossroad.***

Recent global events of wars, economic instability, and pandemics have exposed a universal exhaustion. Nations are tired, young people are anxious, communities are polarized. Into this fatigue we all feel, the words remain: 'Come, I will give thee rest'. This Rest does not mean withdrawal from responsibility; it is not laziness; it is restoration of purpose. It is the restoration of right relationship with God and with our neighbour. The invitation stands not just to individuals in despair, but to the Church itself. It is a call to come away from our pride, away from the division amongst us, away from our shallow faith and receive rest. May we be a people who not only seek rest for ourselves, but become instruments of rest in this restless world we live in".

Pray for Scotland

Led By Alistair Barton (admin@prayforscotland.org.uk)



The opening event at RCC at Kirkcaldy. Alistair Barton and Pastor Joseph in the foreground.

Kingdom for the King: This was a prayer Initiative between Prayer for Scotland, NE Fife prayer and praise and the Christian community based at Blacketside in Leven.



Praise and Prayer Kingdom for the King

Four Friday nights of Prayer and Praise took place in different churches in Fife. Holy Trinity was the venue on 23 January.

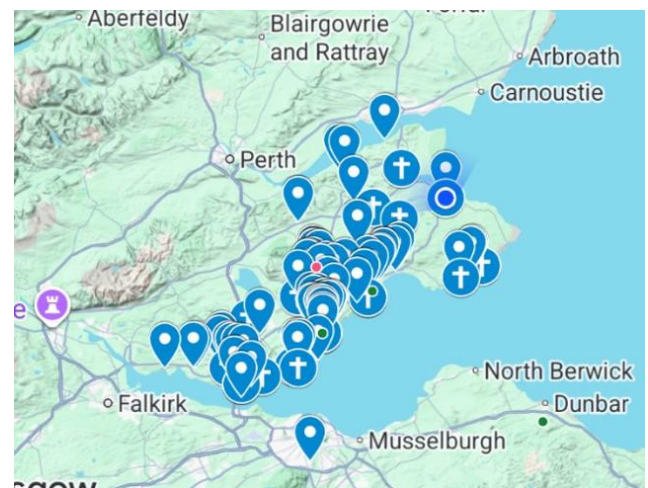
And what a wonderful evening of Prayer and Praise was had. The worship was led by Chris White, well known in these parts, with four 20-minute prayer sessions.

The H&M aisle was filled with the voices of 50-60 people, from as far away as Inverkeithing, as we worshipped Jesus. The prayer sessions, in groups were deep and intimate as we prayed for our communities, our churches, our families and the country.



Chris White leading worship

The Prayer Shield, which was walked around Scotland some years ago was prominent. All agreed that Holy Trinity was a special venue and that we should do this again in the not-too-distant future. Along with the four events, folk signed up to cover 24 hours of prayer over 30 days. The congregation consisted of folk from all over the county, from many different denominations and included our Session Clerk, whose endorsement appears above. The map shows the sites of individuals, churches and prayer groups who participated.



shows the sites of individuals, churches and prayer groups who participated.

We would like to repeat this in the not-too-distant future.

The Presbytery prayer group

Irene Ure, one of the elders in Heart of Fife Parish church (including St Margarets, Glenrothes) co-ordinates the Presbytery Prayer Zoom at 9 am on a Tuesday morning. You would be welcome to join us. The Zoom link is <https://shorturl.at/oy9rV>

Why not come along then.

BD&HT Prayer co-ordinator

Our Prayer co-ordinator, Jennifer Wylie, is available to pass on prayer requests in confidence.



Presbytery News

If You don't read Presbytery news - maybe you should? There is lots of information there about events happening in FIFE. Many of the new congregations, formed from unions, have taken up the challenge to grow our church in Fife.

The website is <https://www.fifepresbytery.org.uk>

This week's news is that there is a new Principal Clerk at 121 George St, (C of S HQ)

His name is Rev Dr Alistair May and he is well known to some of us. We welcome him and wish him well in these difficult times.



Opportunities



Do you have a couple of hours a week for ministry and mission? Are you interested in connecting your faith with the world of work through workplace chaplaincy? For further information about Workplace Chaplaincy, contact swhittle@churchofscotland.org.uk or check out the website: <https://shorturl.at/6sre4>

YOUNG PEOPLE AND OUTREACH

LITTLE CHERUBS continues to grow with several new families joining after the Christmas holidays. However, with folk coming from as far as Anstruther, Guardbridge and Strathkiness, parking has become a big problem. The mums and carers have to deal with buggies as well as the children themselves.

We are also struggling to find helpers, especially to set up and put away all the wonderful equipment. *Little Cherubs is one of the main outreaches to folk outside the church family.*

Please pray.

Could ANYONE help with this on a Thursday morning?

KINGDOM 2000: Our SU associate trust, K2, continues to thrive and grow. We were fortunate to receive some really generous grants recently, which gives us some financial stability. Our key need now is volunteers to help run our programmes, in particular, our SU groups in schools. Again, please pray.

HOLIDAY CLUB: This will be held 11-14 August, with team training held on the 10 August 2026.

The core teaching team met in February to plan the programme, and we are tentatively considering using/adapting 'The Tale of Two Kings' material, a relatively new programme from SU that looks at the story of King David, and how he points towards the King of Kings, Jesus.

Last year we had over 130 kids attend our holiday club and over 150 attend the Glow party with their accompanying adults, so they really are fantastic outreach events within the community.



OUTREACH

The Church welcome pack is now complete. The pack includes a letter from Marion, a Prayer card, and the Fife Pilgrim Way passport

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHTS IN THE CHURCH HALL

Could Movie night also host monthly Christian movies for adults in the church and for the community? *What about showing "THE CHOSEN", a powerful depiction of the gospels in 20 episodes? (Ed)*

Outreach dates for 2026:

- **Easter Afternoon Kids Service:** Sunday 12 April 2026, 3pm (the Sunday after Easter Sunday)
- (End of term) **Church picnic at the Doocot, Boarhills:** Saturday 20 June.2026
- (Start back again) **Church Barbecue at Holy Trinity Church Halls:** Saturday 22 August 2026.
- **Himalayas Putting Competition:** Sunday 6 September 2026, 1pm (organised by the Brash's).
- **Give Church a go Sunday:** Sunday 27 September 2026.
- **Charity Quiz Evening:** Saturday 26 September 2026, 6:30pm.
- **Kids Afternoon Harvest Service:** Sunday 27 September 2026, 3pm.
- **Christmas Eve Afternoon Family Service:** Thursday 24 December 2026, 3pm.

QUIZ NIGHT

Please mark this up in your diary- last year was great fun (Ed)

Steve has officially taken on the role of Chair of the Outreach group (known as Impact for banking purposes/former name).

If you know of anyone who would be interested in hearing more about this, please do put them in touch with him.

ADDITIONAL YOUTH WORKER.

I reported to the Session that they were in conversation with the Presbytery about the employment of a youth worker, focussed on the teenage group in the town.

Steve



CHILDREN'S CORNER

Hello again, girls and boys,

You've probably seen all four *Toy Story* movies! Buzz Lightyear, Woody, Jessie and the rest. It's 30 years since Randy Newman wrote the wonderful *Toy Story* song 'You've got a friend in me', but it still sounds fresh, and the words are brilliant:

"When the road looks rough ahead / and you're miles and miles from your nice warm bed / You just remember what your old pal said: / You've got a friend in me".

I know you could sing the last part right now: *"And as the years go by / Our friendship will never die / You're gonna see, it's our des-tin-ee.... / You've got a friend in me".*

If someone's having troubles, I'm sure you're a good friend to them. A famous Christian hymn about friendship and prayer (number 547 in Church of Scotland hymnbooks) was written in 1855 by a person whose life had some difficulties. It's called: '*What a friend we have in Jesus*'. Check it out, next time something's worrying you (maybe a school exam?), and these two parts will cheer you up:

*"Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness – Take it to the Lord in prayer!"*

*"Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge – Take it to the Lord in prayer".*

Bye for now! **Granger Brash**

A MEDITATION (FOUND IN A PARISH MAGAZINE)

A Recipe for Love

*4 cups of love
2 cups of loyalty
3 cups of forgiveness
2 spoons of hope
2 spoons of tenderness
2 quarts of faith
1 barrel of laughter
1 spoon of friendship*

Take love and loyalty and mix together with faith. Blend with tenderness, kindness and understanding. Add friendship and hope and sprinkle abundantly with laughter. Bake with sunshine and serve daily with generous helpings.

EVENTS

Myra's 90th birthday

Another milestone in the life of our long-lived congregation.

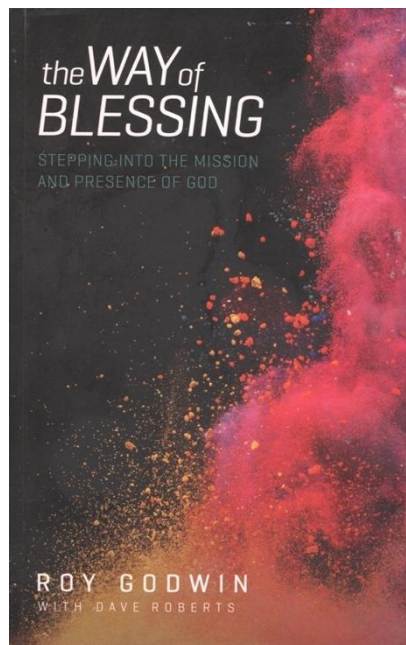
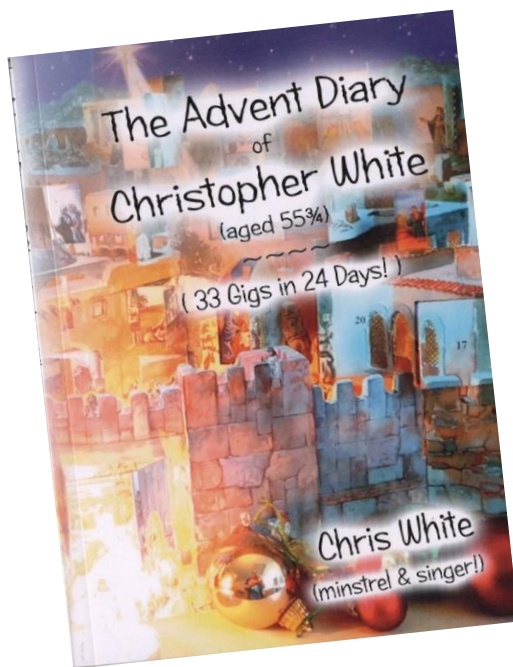
Myra Wilson was 90 in December.

Here is Marion leading her 'second' choir in a rendering of "Happy Birthday to you".



Thank you, Myra, for years of faithful service to Holy Trinity

BOOKS



A couple of books which you might wish to dip into.

Chris White is a worship leader who lives in Pitscottie. He provides music for many Care homes and plays for the Filling Station, which meets monthly in Luthrie village hall. *He led worship at our Kingdom for the King evening on 23 January*

Roy Godwin runs the Ffald-y-Brenan healing centre in Wales. The book is full of testimonies of healing.

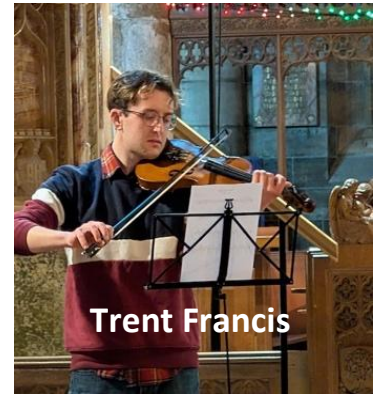
CONCERTS

Our concert season has been exceptional this year!



St Andrews Community choir and orchestra

There were three very special events: The community choir concert was conducted by Lucienne Suter. Trent Francis, one of the choir and an HT Choral Scholar, played solo violin. Callum MacLeod, unusually, was on the big drum



Trent Francis

A legacy concert by the St Andrews Chamber orchestra celebrated the career of Cedric Thorpe-Davie, who was greatly responsible for developing music in the University. Huge sounds which are rarely heard.



Lucienne Suter

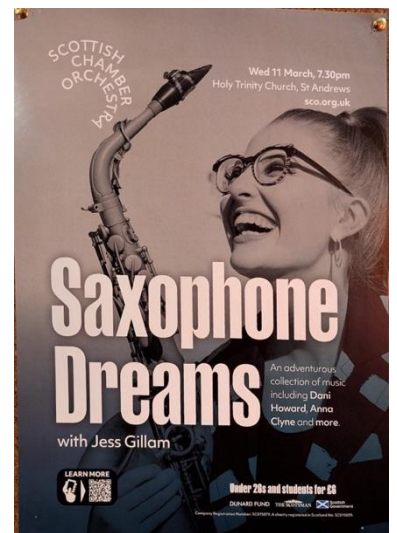


The SCO



The outstanding brass section

And last but not least, an exceptional concert by the SCO featuring Jess Gillom on the saxophone; not often heard in Holy Trinity.



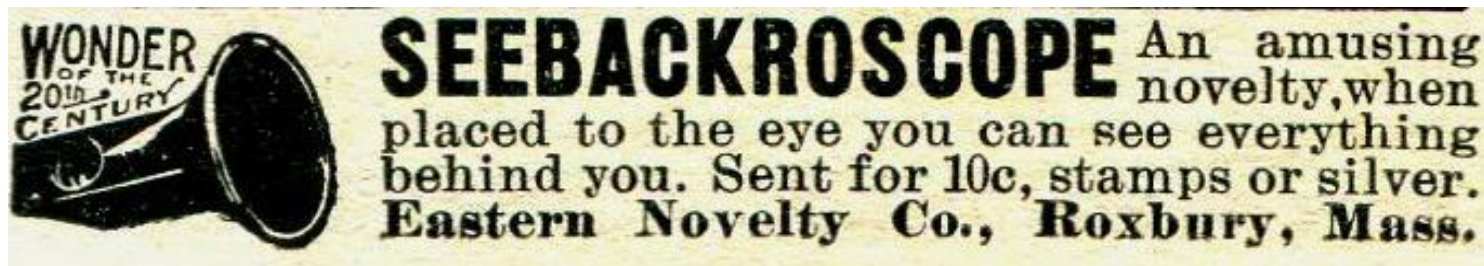
Huge thanks are due to Mike Carslaw and his team (NB more volunteers are welcome PLEASE)

A THOUGHT - FROM BUNNY

Look back with thanks and not in anger

A telescope is an optical instrument designed to make distant objects appear closer, larger and brighter. It was invented in the Netherlands around 1608 and improved by Isaac Newton some years later.

I'm not sure why I was thinking of telescopes this wet, misty morning, but my mind jumped to the idea of a *See-backroscope*, an instrument that would allow us to look back to the past.



If such a thing still existed, I would buy one for us at Boarhills, Dunino and St Andrews: Holy Trinity. It would enable us to look clearly over the past few years and see how God has blessed and guided us as a congregation, from a moment of despair when we thought we would be closed down and our beautiful building sold to the highest bidder. Somehow, despite many difficult moments, that did not happen. This is when a See-backroscope would come into its own. Just pretend you have one and see how under Marion, who was only appointed for 6 months, things began to look up. New people joined us and helped the members to keep going and feel that we had a future. Marion stayed in post and guided us with loving care. Alastair Symington became our Interim Moderator and gave wise guidance to Marion and the Session. Each time we needed someone, someone appeared. For example, when our much-loved organist, Tom, was ill and had to give up, a new one, Walter, slipped into the organ seat, and when he too was ill and could not continue, Marjorie appeared and ably filled the position. Just at the moment when we had to decide whether to join with the two other Church of Scotland congregations in the town, the idea of the Signature Church was proposed and we were earmarked as one of them, making it easier to explain why we knew we had a slightly different role as a church and a congregation.

I could go on, but I'm sure you've got your See-backscopes turned on and like me are amazed at how lucky we have been...*lucky*, did I say – no, blessed, for, as the gospels tell us, when we ask God for help in prayer and trust and sometimes in tears, and do our best, He gives us what we need - not always what we expect but what we realise, as we look through that Seeback thing, that God has given us exactly what we needed as He always does when we pray and ask and listen and obey.

That is why I am writing this, we need to thank God for what He has done for us in the last few years, to realise that we can trust Him, and keep in close touch with Him together in prayer, service, fellowship and love.

Blessings *Bunny*

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK



Christian Aid Week in Scotland

10-16 May 2026

10-16 May 2026

Christian Aid Week resources

Whether you are holding an event, a sale or a service, we have resources to help!

We hope that you will use our prayers and sermon notes in a worship service, or invite a Christian Aid speaker to share about our work.

The popular Christian Aid Scotland Quiz is back for another year. If you would like a digital copy, please get in touch. You can use the quiz to host an event or print off copies to sell for a donation. Answers will be available online after Christian Aid Week, unless requested earlier.

As churches and groups move away from House to House fundraising, sales of all sorts are gaining popularity. Let us know if you would like to try holding a book, plant or craft sale, or something more creative. We can provide ideas, answer questions and help you think through all the details.

We also have posters, envelopes, and other materials to support your fundraising efforts. Ordering online (caid.org.uk) reduces our administrative costs. If you aren't able to order online, please give us a ring.



Fridah and her grandson, Quillan. She participates in the Imarisha Kilimo project and has a small area to grow vegetables near the one room home she rents.

We are so grateful to you – our supporters, Christian Aid Groups and churches across Scotland. If we can support your efforts in any way, please let us know.

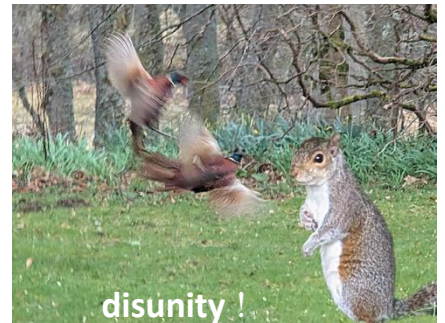
Last year churches in Scotland raised £780,000 Can we help to do even better this year?

ANOTHER THOUGHT

Unity (a reflection on psalm 133)

God blesses 'unity' (v.1). I have seen that over and over again. He blesses unity in marriage, families, teams, communities, nations and in the church. When Christians from different churches, traditions and denominations come together in unity, 'that's where God commands his blessing' (v.3, MSG). The psalmist writes, 'How wonderful, how beautiful when brothers and sisters get along!' (v.1, MSG). There is a proverb: 'weak things united become strong.' The same is true of people: weak people united become strong. The psalmist describes this unity as being 'like precious oil' (v.2) using an image from Leviticus 8:12). It is like 'the dew of Hermon'. Mount Hermon is a vast area. It is usually snow-capped. It rises over 9,000 feet above sea level. Its dew is thought to keep the whole land fresh. These images of oil and dew are images of blessing. Where there is unity, 'there the Lord bestows His blessing' (v.3).

*How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!
It is like precious oil poured on the head,
running down on the beard,
running down on Aaron's beard,
down on the collar of his robe.
it is as if the dew of Hermon
were falling on Mount Zion.
For there the LORD bestows his blessing,
even life forevermore. Psalm 133*



NEWS FROM NEIGHBORING PRESBYTERIES

LOTHIANS AND BORDERS PRESBYTERY

PEEBLES

At a recent visit to St Andrews Leckie church of Scotland in Peebles we were encouraged to see this slide projected before the service. The prayer room was filled with children (and one youth worker) and the children were the ones who prayed- POWERFULLY. Someone is teaching the children to pray.

Come forward for prayer at the front of the church after service

For healing, for difficult situations, for family and friends, for guidance, or if something in the Service has spoken to you.

Our God promises in Philipians 4

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."



Pollokshaws Parish Church- the aftermath

GLASGOW PRESBYTERY

Sadly, the church where Moira’s father was the minister, and where Moira and I were married, was completely destroyed in a fire in December, thus ending thoughts of union there.

BELHAVEN AND SPOTT C of S (Dunbar)



The Christingle service on Christmas Eve, led by Rev Ally Stark, who was part of us at Breakfast at Trinity, was packed with children. It was a very exciting, and moving, service.

DEVOTIONALS

Starting the day with a devotional reading can put us into a peaceful frame of mind, no matter what faces us.

There are many devotional books available which lead into a scripture We will feature others in the editions to come.



In Time with GOD.

Your identity is secure in relation to Heavenly Father in the Son and through the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Come, Lord Jesus, cut through the chatter of news, opinion, and propoganda with your life-giving word, full of grace and truth.

A TESTIMONY

When Moses was afraid to confront Pharaoh God said to him “What do you have in your hand?”
“My staff”. “Throw it on the ground” and later “Strike the rock” and miracles happened!”

God addressed the same question an Iranian refugee. Her answer was “My mobile phone”
“Then use it”

She now has over 40,000 followers on Instagram to whom she ministers in Farsi!

What have you got in your hand that could be used for God’s purpose in St Andrews?

LOCAL CHURCHES

Service of Union St Andrews New Kirk

St Leonards, with Cameron and St Mark’s came together as one parish on 1 January 2026 to form St Andrews New Kirk.

Several of us from Holy Trinity attended the first joint service, at which Graeme Beebee, who is now one of two ministers allocated to that charge (the other is still to be chosen) preached on the joy of coming together. It was a very poignant service.



Graeme preaching at the first service of the new union in January

The official service of union took place in March at which the Presbytery were present. **The report in the Presbytery News read as follows:**

“It was a joy and blessing to see such a gathering of people at the Service of Union of St Andrews New Kirk, the joining of Cameron and St Leonard’s and St Mark’s St Andrews.

Presbytery Moderator, Rev Arthur Christie led the service with warmth with the Rev Jane Barron, a familiar face to many in St Andrews, preaching the sermon.



Revs Graeme Beebee, Alec Shuttleworth Arthur Christie and Jane Barron

Rev Graeme Beebee, who was introduced as the first minister of the new charge, and first of the ministers of what is to be a team ministry, led the congregation in the Statement of Christian Faith.

There was a lovely atmosphere in the hall afterwards as fellowship, refreshments and stories were shared.

We wish the congregation, and Graeme, our richest blessings as they embark on the journey ahead”.

THE CHOIR



It's difficult to get the choir together for a photograph, but here is a picture of them preparing to lead us in worship

REPENTANCE



Most of you will be familiar with the repentance stool, which is in the Sharp Aisle. It was used for those who had been accused of heinous crimes, such as theft or adultery, who were arraigned before the congregation.

Thankfully we've moved on from these harsh days, but perhaps we should take heed of the history of our Holy Trinity building.

BOARHILLS AND DUNINO

Misty morning at Dunino Kirk
© Mike Stewart



The Boarhills and Dunino part of our congregation celebrated Christmas with colourful jumpers.





In January there was joint service with the Holy Trinity folk but sadly not many of the HT folk went. It may have been the weather, but we really ought to do more together as ONE

Perhaps those in Holy Trinity could think of offering lifts the next time this is proposed.

By the way, the cakes and scones at B&D are excellent!

SOMETHING TO PONDER

We seem to have been transfixed over the last number of years by the threats of unions and closures of churches, which have led to much heartbreak in our land.

But now it appears that there is a lightening of the gloom. The union of St Marks and St Leonards is immediately to the fore, but this month there have been several other congregations in Fife, and further away, which have 'bitten the bullet' and come together, with all that that involves. Only this month there have been services of union between Carnbee, Kilrenny, Kingsbarns, Largoward, Ceres, Kemback and Springfield, who joined together as the new united charge of East Fife Rural. There are still some sticky areas, but it seems that folk are now seeing that getting together to provide vibrant places of worship are happening.

It behoves in Boarhills, Dunino and St Andrews: Holy Trinity to continue to provide a strong witness to the gospel.

Someone once said ***"Change is here to stay!"***

Let us look to the future with hope and faith.

The outreach group are looking for new and exciting opportunities. Let us get behind them and grow our congregation so that Christ may be glorified in a new and exciting way in our town.

CHANGES TO THE PARISH REGISTER

WEDDINGS

6 December	Jack Crawford to Chloe McQueen	Holy Trinity
5 February	Giuli Lurito to Tucker King (Blessing)	Holy Trinity

FUNERALS

16 December	Anne Thomson	Holy Trinity
12 January	Archibald Fullarton	Brewsterwells
2 February	David Bird	Holy Trinity
3 February	Stuart Braid	Brewsterwells
17 February	Kathleen Watson	Holy Trinity

NEW MEMBERS

Pat Harvey

NEW ELDER TO BE ADMITTED TO THE KIRK SESSION

Dr Mark Hamilton

SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

PALM SUNDAY: 29 March

9:45am—Morning Worship, Dunino

11:15am—Morning Worship, Holy Trinity

WEDNESDAY: 1 April

7pm—Service of meditation in Dunino

MAUNDY THURSDAY: 2 April

7pm—Holy Communion Service in Holy Trinity

GOOD FRIDAY: 3 April

7pm—Service of Meditation in Holy Trinity

EASTER SUNDAY: 5 April

9:45am—Morning Worship in Dunino

11:15am—Morning Worship followed by Holy Communion in Holy Trinity

SUNDAY 12 April

9:45am—Morning Worship in Dunino

11:15am—Morning Worship in Holy Trinity

3pm—Children's Resurrection Service & Easter Egg Hunt in Holy Trinity

A POEM (Which seems appropriate to reflect on)

Church Going by Philip Larkin

Once I am sure there's nothing going on
I step inside, letting the door thud shut.

Another church:

matting, seats, and stone,
and little books;
sprawlings of flowers, cut for Sunday,
brownish now;
some brass and stuff
up at the 'holy' end
The small neat organ;
And a tense, musty, unignorable silence,
brewed, God knows for how long.

Hatless, I take off
my cycle-clips in awkward reverence,
Move forward, run my hand around the font.
From where I stand, the roof looks almost new-
Cleaned or restored? Someone would know: I don't.

Mounting the lectern, I peruse a few
Hectoring large-scale verses, and pronounce
"Here endeth" much more loudly than I'd meant.
The echoes snigger briefly.

Back at the door
I sign the book, donate an Irish sixpence,
Reflect the place was not worth stopping for.

Yet stop I did: in fact I often do,
And always end much at a loss like this,
Wondering what to look for; wondering, too,
When churches fall completely out of use
What we shall turn them into?

**Shall we keep A few 'cathedrals' chronically on show,
Their parchment, plate, and pyx in locked cases,
And let the rest rent-free to rain and sheep.
Shall we avoid them as unlucky places?**

Let us not become what Philip portrayed here (Ed)