



Congregation No. 161067
Scottish Charity No. SCO15579

TRINITY CHAT Summer 2023

Musings from the manse



(Image from Heartlight)

Fixing our eyes on Jesus is at the core of everything we want to do and to be, as a follower of Jesus Christ. We are often so easily distracted by “clickbait”, social media and advertising, by the tensions and chores of everyday life. And so it is good to spend some time each day, focusing on prayer and bible study, and just being in the presence of God. Listening to God, and seeking to follow Jesus teaching and ways, are simultaneously such a challenge and such a blessing. These are bewildering days, in that our search for the right configuration

Knightswood Anniesland Trinity Church

of buildings to promote mission has been problematic. Our parish grouping council (made up of the elders of KAT church and St David's church) decided the vote should be on keeping the St Margaret's building for worship and development, disposing of the Anniesland building, and keeping the St David's building for community outreach, with the possibility of a community SCIO being formed. This then went to a congregational vote on 29th March. At St David's they voted for this 34/6, and at Knightswood Anniesland Trinity church 57/56.

Representatives from Glasgow Presbytery came out to meet with the parish grouping council, to say they had concerns about the vote pastoral concerns about the health of the KAT congregation because of the closeness of the vote, concerns about the procedures used round the vote, and about comments regarding the missional purpose of the vote. As a church family, we have different views about what building would best help us find a way forward which allows us to have strong connections with our young people and the local community - this is a pastoral concern, as the uncertainty is putting a strain on our relationships.

Procedurally, on 31st May, representatives from Glasgow Presbytery told us that there were problems with the voting process at the Knightswood Anniesland Trinity church. **There is no suggestion that anyone did anything wrong**, but that presbytery procedures regarding the vote were not robust enough for the vote to be safe. This means that there needs to be a rethink.

The matter of the missional emphasis has not been spoken much about, but is also part of the picture. The parish grouping council brought in an organization called "Designed to Succeed" to ask them for independent advice re what would be most missional - missional meaning that there are pathways to faith through contact with community and youth organisations. Amongst its concerns were how to maintain missional work already established and to enable it to flourish, and the organisation provided different building configuration options to enable this to happen.

In this complex situation, and with time deadlines looming, the work to think through these options was cut short. This meant that some of the missional and community considerations, especially around the status of the Anniesland building, were unfinished, and this has led to different views on the wisest way ahead.

I have listened to many people who are stressed and frustrated at the confusing situation that we find ourselves in. The only answer I can find is to keep looking to Jesus for answers. We remind ourselves that we are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses, our forebearers who contended for the gospel, and who are encouraging us, as we prayerfully seek to work this out. It also reminds us that over thousands of years, the church has had to adapt and change, and that this age is no different. We want to build relations with all, young and senior citizen alike, and to find effective ways of doing this!

“The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”

Deuteronomy 31:8

I was at the General Assembly in May, and there was much talk there about new presbytery plans. It is estimated that soon there will only be 600 Church of Scotland ministers in Scotland, and so the number of ministry posts need to be reduced. We also have inherited too many buildings, many of which are needing a vast amount of repairs. Therefore up and down the land, there is a review process - presbytery planning - to work out how to wisely make the best use of the resources we have. It is a time of great pain - having to make decisions which mean that some of our much loved buildings need to be given up - if they are not in the best

locations, the fabric is precarious, or they are not well used. The decisions we are facing are being faced by churches throughout the land.

On the 28th June, another parish grouping meeting was held, to look at our options. Initially we had looked at the possibility of just running the vote again, but the congregation is now deeply divided, and whatever the outcome, it was not necessarily going to help. The complexity of the factors in decision making, interlaced with legal procedures and differing priorities were all considered. Therefore at this meeting on the 28th June, we spoke with Presbytery representatives about the possibility of exploring arbitration regarding our building situation, and to understand more of what is involved. If the parish grouping council recommends that we pursue arbitration, then the details of this will be explained to you in good time, and you will have the opportunity for a congregational vote on this on the 10th of September. When we have more information, we will let you know. In the meantime we continue to keep everyone in prayer in this very stressful and uncertain situation. People have tried hard to work this out locally, but it could well be that arbitration regarding our buildings, whatever the result, could give us the best opportunity to move forward.

With Love and many prayers
Fiona

“Those times of transitions are great opportunities to look for recurring patterns in your life and make adjustments to build on the good and reduce the bad.” – Dan Miller

A big thank you To all our elders and office bearers, to our teams and to our youth leaders, for their massive amount of work in the year passed. It has been a year of uncertainties, but people have often served with servant hearts to support others, and that has been so much appreciated. We have had so many extra meetings, especially in the last 6 months, for both Kirk Session and Parish grouping Council, so thank you to all elders for giving up so much of their time to consider the important issues before us. A more detailed thank you is in the SAM review of the year, where we give thanks for all who serve faithfully week by week.

I know these are difficult days, and we are called to love one another, to speak positively, to be kind, even when we differ. This is the teaching of Jesus Christ, and we pray for God's holy spirit to help us in these matters.



Many events that brought joy.

In the midst of all the controversy over buildings, we have been determined to try to offer as many constructive activities as we can in our church family and parish.

On the 13th May, we had a fabulous community concert in the Anniesland sanctuary. It was great to celebrate the talents of our young people and our community groups, and we are very thankful for all who participated. Such a wonderful evening.

An enormous thanks to Gail for organising this.

On the 15th May the St Margaret's building hosted the "**Senior's Fair**" from 12 noon till 3pm, and it was a joy to see the hall full of representatives from so many community organisations. It is good to see all that is going on in our community, and we are so grateful for the work of Knightswood Connects in helping us all to build relationships.

On the 9th June, we had a wonderful "**Messy church**" on the theme of "Celebrating God's creation". It was great to see new families come along. The BBQ was also a great favourite.

On the 10th June, we had a **church family trip to Luss**. It was incredibly hot, but it was great to wander about, and to be reminded of the ancient Christian heritage of the village and of the legacy of St Kessog from 1500 years ago. We enjoyed a lovely lunch, and the children had time to play in the playpark. We were exhausted by the time of the bus ride back.

On the 11th June, we had our **Sunday club celebration service**, thinking of the theme "Learning Together". We are so grateful for the families and young people around our church and are thankful to Louise for co-ordinating us.

“Life is but a Weaving”
(The Tapestry Poem) by Corrie ten Boom

My life is but a weaving
Between my God and me.
I cannot choose the colors
He weaveth steadily.
Oft' times He weaveth sorrow;
And I in foolish pride
Forget He sees the upper
And I the underside.
Not 'til the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly
Will God unroll the canvas
And reveal the reason why.
The dark threads are as needful
In the weaver's skillful hand
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern He has planned
He knows, He loves, He cares;
Nothing this truth can dim.
He gives the very best to those
Who leave the choice to Him.

Dates for the diary.

Over the summer period, we think we all need a good break, as it has been such a busy and stressful year.

The Tuesday **Friendship café** continues every Tuesday morning from 10 till 11.30am - all are welcome.

Wednesday 5th July **beetle drive** 1-3pm (in aid of Blythswood shoeboxes) and Wednesday 2nd August **afternoon tea** 1-3pm St Margaret's building.

We have two **praise hours** - 26th July and 23rd August from 7-8pm. This is a time of enjoying more modern praise music from an electronic praise list. It is an informal time, open to all.

Please pray for our holiday club "**The Restoration station**" on from 8th till 10th August, 10am till 11.55am for P1 to P7 children. This is open to all and is a wonderful combination of songs, bible stories, craft and drama. Suggested donation £3. We pray for a great team, eager to learn, for practical and technological things to work well, and for children and families to come and have a great time, learning about Jesus together.

On 27th August, After conversations with St David's Knightswood church, we have agreed to hold **a Souper Sunday** service at the St Margaret's building. Further details are to be available nearer the time.

On 2nd September, we hope to have **Sharon Garlough Brown coming to lead a Retreat** 10.30am till 3.30pm. All welcome (Sharon had to reschedule this due to illness). This is in the Anniesland sanctuary.

On 28th October at 7pm, we have a " Four Seasons" concert from **Cross Rock** in memory of the late Jean Findlater. More information to follow, but please put this date in your diary.

Hello everyone,

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of June already, where has the year gone? It has been lovely to enjoy some summer sunshine and I'm sure we all hoping that the recent rain we've been having will stop and the warmer days return.

The Kirk Session have been busy taking care of the business that needs attended to. It feels like the last six months have been constant rounds of meeting after meeting as we try to figure out the way forward for our church. Please keep the members of the Kirk Session and of the Parish Grouping Council in your prayers over the coming weeks as there is still a few things to be ironed out and difficult decisions to be made.

We have had some enjoyable times with some great coffee mornings and lots of cake ... always a reason to smile when there is cake on offer! We also had a fantastic Community Concert in May where we saw some of the talented folk that use our halls each week from both the Knightswood and Anniesland buildings. Who knew we had such talented people in our midst!

We hope you all have a peaceful and relaxing summer and that if you are managing to get away for a few days that you have a great time.

Take Care

David Adams and Gail Grieve

Joint Session Clerks



Family and youth worker

It was great to have the chance at the celebration service on the 11th of June to share with the congregation what Sunday club have been doing this year. We have lots of fun and games, and our snack is very important in fuelling their energy and enthusiasm.

It is surprising what is achieved in the short time we have together each week. Our conversations can be profound and deep, exploring faith, love, forgiveness, and many of life's big questions.

I am so proud of them and their families and the resilience they show. Some have had a particularly difficult time this year.

Their care and concern for each other is obvious when we see the older ones take time to wait for, include, and encourage the younger ones. They also have deep concerns for our wider world and explore how best to care for our planet. They sent cards and prayers to Pakistan when it was so badly affected by flooding. They enjoy making things to give to the rest of the congregation like the mini eggs and prayer cards at Easter, And the bookmarks at the Pentecost service. They were particularly pleased to have the opportunity to share these with the St David's congregation at our joint service in May

We may come to Sunday club feeling tired, or worried and anxious about school, family, friends or just life in general. The friendships we form, and the chance to share mean we leave feeling better.

Our young people from Sunday club and our youth organisations did a wonderful job at the Church community concert in May. It was a great intergenerational event. All ages coming together to produce a variety of singing, dancing, storytelling, and so much more. We have so much talent in our community.

Plans for our summer holiday club are going well. It will be held on the 8th, 9th, and 10th of August and is open to children of primary school age. It is called the restoration station and explores Jesus' healing and restoring us to wholeness and new life in Him. If you are interested in finding out more, helping, or booking a place please email me on louise.reid@katchurch.org.uk

I ask for your prayers for all our young people and families over the summer holidays. Particularly we would appreciate prayers for our holiday club to go well, to bring young people to have fun learning about Jesus and his great love and for our team as they come together and support each other.

Wishing you all a blessed Summer
Louise Reid (Family and youth worker)

“For I know the plans I have for you ,” declares the lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Jeremiah 29:11

Communications

Our communications team continues to grow. They endeavour to keep our church family and wider community as up to date as possible on all that goes on in the church. Including services, events, and meetings. This can be difficult sometimes when there are changes particularly at short notice. The website, email and Facebook are ideal for this but of course only helpful if you can access them. The team also use posters and the intimations on screen at worship. Unfortunately, even with all this occasionally the most recent information does not get to everyone who needs it. Another most effective form of communication is when we talk to each other. So, if you are aware of changes to locations, dates times or just information in general please share this with others. I am grateful to all our volunteers for their help and support. If you would be interested in offering even a few hours to help, please email louise.reid@katchurch.org.uk

Louise Reid (communications team)

Community Concert

Saturday 13th May marked the first ever KAT Church Community Concert and what a great night it turned out to be. Who knew we had so many talented people using our halls each week!

A huge thank you to all who gave up their time to come along and take part – Lindsay with her Decades Dance group, the jivers from Boogie Box Jive lead by former British and Scottish Champion, Paul Mckenzie and the Circle Dancers lead by Katie Jack. A huge well done to all the young people from our Brownies, Guides, Boys Brigade and Sunday Club. We loved seeing them and enjoyed their singing and dancing very much. Thank you too to Claire and Christine for the beautiful pieces of music that they played. We were also introduced to Boxcar Davie and his Dancing Divas with some great country and western tunes. Fiona and Louise lead us in some thought provoking stories. Ali Brien lead the Singergie choir with such enthusiasm and they treated us to several uplifting songs.

There are so many people to thank behind the scenes too – the youth organisation leaders for their weeks of practice with their young people. Alan and Alex on the door, welcoming the audience as they arrived. Audrey on the AV desk who helped the night run so smoothly and fixed all our technical hitches! (There were a few!) Cathie and the team in the kitchen for making sure that tea and coffee were ready just when it was needed. So many people, all working together as a team to make the evening a success.

When I started planning the concert, I didn't envisage that we would have such a large turnout to support the various groups and organisations. It was so good to see the church so full, so much so, downstairs was standing room only. Here's to the next one !

Gail Grieve (see photos in the colour pages)

Congregational Register

Baptism – we give thanks for the baptism of:

Jeremiah Chand 14th of May 2023
Richard Moonan, 25th of June 2023

New members - We welcome

Christine Hay (by transference certificate)
Fiona Hay (by transference certificate)
Richard Moonan

Deaths - “blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted”

Daniel Cumming	March 2023
Ruby Davidson	March 2023

Our Daily Bread

I get 30 copies of Our Daily Bread Bible reading notes which I give to friends in church and other friends who don't go to church. I've been sent 10 copies of sample notes in large print. If anyone would like a copy of large print notes to see if they would like to order them from me, or the quarterly normal print size, please let me know. There is no charge as I send a donation to cover costs. Many people find the notes helpful, and I would like to encourage as many people as possible to try them, if they don't use any other Bible notes.

Alison Gray

Friendship Café

The Friendship Café meets every Tuesday (even during the holidays!) between 10am and 11.30am. in the St. Margaret's Building. Our guests, usually numbering around 30-40, come along and enjoy toast, tea/coffee, cake, biscuits etc. and lots of chat and some puzzles.

On Tuesday 9th May we had a special morning to celebrate and mark the Coronation and other themed mornings will be announced as appropriate. Sometimes Wilma also leads us in an aerobics session but it is not compulsory!

Our library of books and magazines is now up and running and everyone is very welcome to borrow 'a good read'.

That just leaves me now to wish you all a happy and healthy summer holiday. ENJOY!

Christine Furnish



For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in,

Matthew 25:35

Annie's place café

Our volunteers at Annie's drop in café do a great job whether ensuring everyone feels welcome, making sure the tea and coffee is always topped up or delivering our programme of activities. Since March we have made brooches, clay crosses, and butterfly fans. We have enjoyed several sing-a-longs with Jane and the pupils from the High school of Glasgow. We have had many line dancing sessions led by Cathy, Elizabeth, and Beatrice the latest of which was for our summer party which included mocktails. New for this session we have had Jim guiding us with some gardening. We planted tomato plants and hanging baskets. Not to mention the ten-pin bowling, dominoes, and quizzes.

Our activities are fun and offer different experiences to share together and build friendships over. We continue to welcome new faces to join our regulars.

Annie's place has a break over the summer to allow our volunteers time to rest and recharge their batteries.

We will be back on Friday the 1st of September 1-3pm in the Anniesland building. You can find our latest programme on the church website or posters and fliers in both the church buildings. So come along some time you will be made very welcome.

Louise and the Annie's place team

The Church Choir

As I sit preparing this article for the Church Magazine, the sun is shining and the air is warm so perhaps summer has arrived at last!

Our Choir Practices on Thursday evenings are suspended at present until September but we still meet on Sunday mornings around 10.15 to practise the music for the Sunday services. Anyone who enjoys singing do please come and join as at that time.

We rounded off the 22-23 session with a delicious meal at 'The Prancing Stag' restaurant and were delighted that Stewart Henderson, the recently retired organist at Temple Anniesland Building, was able to join us.

We are also pleased to welcome 3 new members to the Choir: Christine Hay, Fiona Hay and Emma Brown and we hope that they will enjoy singing in the Choir and the fellowship which this provides.

In July and August we shall hopefully contribute introits to the services (numbers permitting) but in September, when Thursday rehearsals will restart, we shall return to singing anthems.

In the meantime I hope you all have a lovely summer break which should give us lots of relaxation and replenishment.

Christine Furnish





Blythswood Shoeboxes

For years I have been filling shoeboxes which are sent to very deprived people in eastern Europe. This year I'm hoping to do 80 shoeboxes, mostly for elderly ladies and teenage boys.

I get the best bargains e.g., adult hats and scarves £3 reduced to £1. In fact, for £5 I've bought, for teenage boys, a hat, scarf, gloves and three pairs of warm socks.

On Wednesday the 5th of July (1-3pm), the KAT church monthly summer coffee afternoon will support Blythswood. Tickets are £3 each and we will have some things for sale, such as homemade cards and gift bags. If you were able to support this or donate towards the cost of filling the boxes or transporting them (£3 a box) it would be much appreciated. Four people have already asked for covered boxes to fill themselves. If anyone else would like a box, please ask me.

The coffee afternoon will be held in the St Margaret's building.

Thank you

Alison Gray

Thank You

I feel so blessed to be part of this loving, caring church family. After Mum passed away, I have been feeling very lost lately and not knowing how to deal with the sadness. But your words of encouragement and condolence have helped. This phase of coping with loss and grief is challenging for both me and Jessica. I had such a special bond with my Mum and just miss her so much; her smile, her voice, her sense of humour, her way of making everything better., but the love and support that you have shown mean so much to us. Just knowing that I am not alone.

There are too many to name individually, but I do have to express my sincere thanks to Louise and Alex who have helped me clear Mum's flat. This has been the most difficult part of the journey and I would never have got to this stage without them.

I also must mention our caring and loving minister and my very good friend, Fiona who has been such a great support, giving me the strength and ability to endure this challenging time. Mum and I both loved her visits to the Hospice – always ended up having such a good laugh. Memories I will cherish. As you know, my brother, Henry and his family have a new life now in America which has left me to try and arrange all that needs to be done. Fiona was and is there always, guiding me and just giving me the much-needed support and has been a source of strength for me during this difficult time.

I also must thank my daughter, Jessica, who has been my rock. I try to hide my emotions from her but sometimes that is not possible and she just gives me the best hug and reminds me that “she is now up in heaven with Jesus, pain free and with Papa Harry and all her friends, and is always with us, looking after us” Of course she is right and this alone is a huge comfort.

Thank you all for guiding me through this tragic loss of my Mum and my best friend and Jessica’s Granny. Your condolences and prayers are very much appreciated. Thank you for keeping both me and Jessica in your thoughts and prayers and being there for us.

Your loving sisters, Clare & Jessica





247 Boys Brigade



The boys have been working hard learning songs for the Church Community Concert that happened on 13th May. Thank you to all parents and extended families for coming along to support and cheer the boys on the night.

We have welcomed two new Junior Section boys and a new young leader in the past few weeks. The boys have been working on tasks towards their next badges. We had some great discussions about the Coronation of King Charles and learned about the Stone of Destiny.

We have had lots of fun over the last few months and are now looking forward to summer holidays. Our last night in the hall ended, of course, with our annual water fight this is always the highlight of the year and I always seem to come off the worst! Thankfully this year the weather was kind and it was a warm and sunny evening. We also managed to visit the circus on it's opening night in Victoria Park just before we finished for the summer. The boys especially enjoyed the clowns and the acrobats. A great time was had by all.

Boys Brigade is open to all boys in Primary 1 and above. If you know of anyone who would like to join then please get in touch.

Gail Grieve

Officer in Charge (see photo in the colour pages)