



Congregation No. 161067
Scottish Charity No. SCO15579



TRINITY CHAT SPRING 2023

Musings from the manse

If I was to ask you to build in the desert, would you be able to do this? Probably not. It is hot and dry in the desert, and these would not be the ideal conditions!

Desert times are much in my mind, as we go further into Lent, and think of Jesus being tempted on the desert. This was just after his baptism, and then he had 40 days of struggle and temptation, repeatedly learning to put the will of His heavenly Father above his own. This was his time of preparation for his ministry.

For the Israelites, when they were set free from slavery in Egypt, they spent 40 years in the desert. They had to learn to trust that God would provide for them, how to look after each other, how to live out their commitment to God. They had to undergo this time of trial, before they were ready to build.

And so what the bible repeatedly shows is that in the desert, God builds our character and strengthens our faith, to then equip us to build worshipping communities. When the Israelites eventually settled in Jerusalem, they could build the temple. It was when Jesus emerged from the desert, his ministry amongst the people started.

Knightswood Anniesland Trinity Church

It feels like we have lived through desert times, the restrictions and fears from the pandemic years, reductions and changes in church resources, conflict at home and abroad, and economic uncertainty. These have been disorientating and troubling years.



However, with the message of Easter, we are reminded of streams in the desert, new life, and new possibilities of growth. After the desert times, come times of greater stability, and growth. And after the desert, we are called to build. After the struggle, there are new beginnings.

“ Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. “

Proverbs 3:5

March 2023 is a significant month for Knightswood Anniesland Trinity church and for St David's Knightswood church, for at the end of this month we vote about our buildings usage for the future. For over a year, we have considered the result of community audits, looked at the fabric of our buildings, their usage by the community, transport links, and the possibilities of development for the 21st century. I am grateful to all who have contributed to this process.

Over this time we have been working with the organisation “Designed to Succeed”, who have the experience and skills to help us. They have constantly asked the question- what is your plan for outreach? For whatever configuration of buildings we have in the future, the founding principle to take into account is what is our vision to enable a loving, growing Christian community, which can effectively serve the people around us?

And so there is a presentation on 5th March at 1.30pm till 3pm, when Gary MacFarlane from Designed to Succeed, and the architect Raymond Angus will present the two buildings options to us.

(On a practical note, if you are bringing your car, you can add your car registration number to the list in the church, and we apply for car parking exemption for the day. You need to park in Morrisons side of the car park)

These options have been agreed by the parish Grouping, ie the elders from the churches involved.

1. For the building of St Margaret's to be our main worshipping centre, with St David's church building to be kept for outreach and community activities for a period of time.
2. For the building of Temple Anniesland church to be our main worshipping centre, with St David's church building to be kept for outreach and community activities for a period of time.

There are many pros and cons for each option, and we have asked our architect to survey our buildings, and to look at possibilities for development, and also costings, and to report back on 5th March. This presentation will also give time for questions and clarifications. So please come along to hear what is involved, and to share your thoughts.

After this meeting, the parish grouping (the elders from all the churches) will consider all the different factors, and will make a recommendation of one option, for **the two congregations to vote on 26th March after worship**. All members and adherents have the opportunity to vote. Please make sure you are on the adherents list in advance and notice that you are only able to vote if you are present.

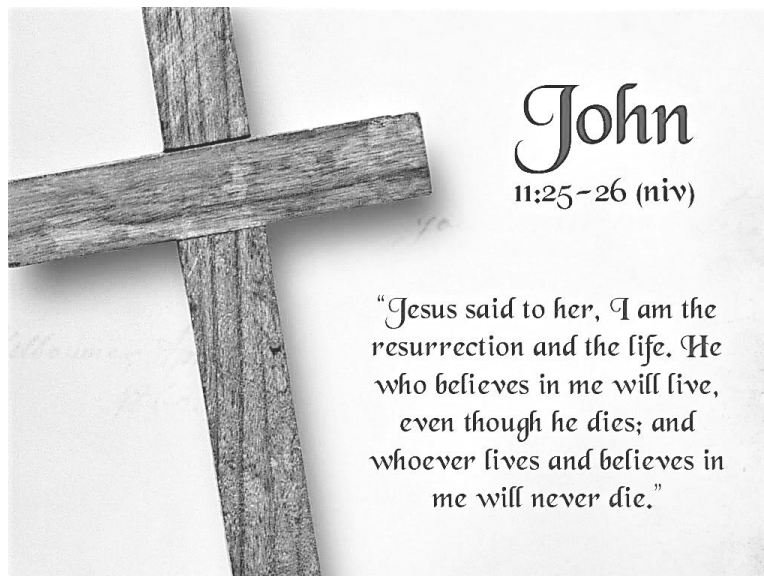
We would so appreciate your prayers for this process, and for wisdom as to what is the best decision.

If you have any questions, please do get in touch. We have taken advice, and been told that no postal or zoom votes are possible. The only people who can vote, are the people who come on the day, and it is by secret ballot. **Please note it is in the St Margaret's building.**

This process is happening at Lent, and after prayer and soul searching, we come to Easter, after death is resurrection, after darkness is light, after suffering come possibilities of joy. We have all had to let go of some of our habits and familiar thought patterns from the past. But we are called to something new and exciting, a modern building which is flexible and fit for purpose, where the Christian community can grow and thrive. That is our vision, and it is one of hope, new life and possibility. We are doing this not just for ourselves, but for the next generation, and for the community which we serve. This is our motivation and our prayer, for the next step in our journey.

Every blessing and prayer in these days of new beginnings,

Fiona



Comfort International. - <https://comfortinternational.org/what-we-do/>

When we decided to work with the organisation “Designed To Succeed” to help us make an informed decision regarding our buildings, they said that they do not charge a fee, but instead ask us to contribute towards a charity they work closely with, called Comfort International. It is based in Cumberland, and we have met with their Church Relations person Peter McLean. We are hoping to give to this charity on 5th March at our joint service, and we thought it would be useful to share a little about them, so below we have shared their vision statement, and something about their work.

For more information, please see the link to their website above. It seems an excellent way to support the very important ministries they have in a number of African countries.

Vision statement



To see wholeness, purpose and unity restored in people and communities across the nations of the world through the powerful love and practical action of Jesus Christ and His Kingdom.

We work with our partners in Rwanda, DR Congo, Burundi, South Sudan and Uganda to bring lasting transform to lives and communities.

Our work includes:

- Providing healthcare and hospital facilities in DR Congo.
- Identifying and rescuing street kids and giving them a loving home.
- Facilitating healing and reconciliation in post-genocide and conflict communities.
- Supporting vulnerable mums and their babies.
- Providing education, training and help to start a business.
- Rehabilitating ex-child soldiers.
- Providing church leadership training.

Since our foundation in 1999, we have worked closely with local partners to ensure that people can become self-sufficient long after we have helped them.

Hello everyone.

I hope this finds you all safe and well. The winter months will soon be behind us and we can look forward to brighter days as spring approaches. Looking at my garden today, the daffodils are starting to pop their heads through the soil .. as well as the weeds! I love when the daffodils are out in bloom along Great Western Road. It makes the drive to work much more pleasant.

Our elders and those from St David's have been busy attending meetings for the Parish Grouping as well as with Gary from Designed to Succeed. The architects have also visited both the Anniesland and Knightswood buildings and we are all waiting to see the plans for restructure with bated breath. I am looking forward to our meeting on 5th March when we will all get to see what ideas they have come up with.

Thinking of changing either building seems really scary and there are so many questions and what if's. My prayer is that God will lead us to make the right decision as to which building will enable our vision to grow as we continue to share God's love not only within our church family but with the wider community. The decisions we make now will affect each of us but what we need to think about is the future. Fiona spoke in her sermon today about what our legacy may be and how our decisions would shape our church for the generations to come. We have some really difficult conversations to have over the next few weeks. Please can you keep both Kirk Sessions in your prayers as we try to work things out.

With love and blessings

Gail Grieve

Joint Session Clerk



The meetings are fair piling up, the deadline approaches and the decision will have to be taken. "What decision is that?" I hear you ask and in return I ask "Where have you been these last 2 years?" Only joking, I'm sure we're all aware that soon, very soon we will meet as a congregation and vote upon which buildings we want to hold on to and which we are willing to let go.

This will not be easy. It's a bit like that old pair of slippers, so comfy, so handy, so well-known, I won't say well-loved, who could love a pair of old slippers, especially mine? They have to go however, and it won't be long until our feet are well accustomed to the new ones. As for our buildings, we know them well we don't get lost in them and, in some cases, we know they look a bit worn out and in need of smarting up but they're our buildings and we're happy in them.

Personally, because of the afore mentioned meetings, there are bits and places in all of our three buildings that I'm getting used to and if it was open to me I reckon I could fill a new empty building with my favourite bits and be perfectly happy. That is not an option, however. The plans being laid before us tell us that even if we keep our preferred building it's going to have to change internally if not externally to meet the challenges of the new Scotland we now live and worship in.

The main thing is that when we come to make this decision, as many as are able will come on the day, hear the options and make their vote, so we know that whatever happens, the majority of the members are in favour of it. A question was asked at our meeting last night (15th February) about proxy voting. The answer was given by Rev Hilary McDougall, Depute Clerk and Moderator of Glasgow Presbytery: "In line with procedure at the General Assembly, there will be no proxy votes." If you are not at the meeting to hear the business, you cannot vote. It's tough, but it does mean that the votes will be cast after hearing the discussions and not based on loyalty to our "own" buildings. That's the hope and I trust you will agree with it.

David Adams
Joint Session Clerk.

Financial Report

At present Beatrice and myself are preparing the 2022 accounts and we have had several meetings with the examiner to get these ready to present to the Kirk Session on 1st March.

2022 was a busy year for us with the union between St Margaret's and Temple Anniesland Parish Churches but everything is now in order under the name of Knightswood Anniesland Trinity Church. St Margaret's was left a legacy in a member's will but unfortunately as this was still in the name of St Margaret's the solicitor handling the estate has stated that the legacy will fall as St Margaret's no longer exists. The law department of the Church of Scotland has taken this up on our behalf but to save this problem arising in the future, I would ask that if anyone has already written a legacy for the church into their will or is thinking of doing this, please ensure that the name of the church is listed as Knightswood Anniesland Trinity.

I would like to thank everyone for their generosity when we have had special collections, retiring offerings, coffee mornings etc especially in the last 2 months of 2022 when it seemed that there was something on every week! We are a relatively small congregation but in 2022 we raised £7084 for charities. Well done to everyone.

As everyone is aware, we are still using both buildings and so costs for heating and lighting are still very high and so I would once again ask that everyone remains diligent when using the church premises to ensure that we are not paying for heating and lighting when the premises are not in use.

Nancy Quinn
Treasurer



Communications

Our communications team work hard to share information and keep everyone up to date with what is happening in our church family and our upcoming events.

We are grateful for a few new volunteers joining our office team. They are finding their feet and already helping with some of the many office tasks. We are looking to recruit some new members to our Audio Visual team and are holding an informal introduction morning on the Saturday the 11th of March at 10am in the Anniesland building. This will be an opportunity for anyone who might be interested to see what would be involved, ask questions and meet some of the AV team. If you or anyone you know might be interested, please speak to Louise or email her at louise.reid@katchurch.org.uk

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to, and helped produce our magazine. It has been great to have some of our teams back working together.

I am grateful to all our communications team volunteers for their help and support.

Please remember to check out our website katchurch.org.uk and our Facebook page Knightswood Anniesland Trinity Church for up to date information about our church events.

Louise Reid

Communications team

Family and Youth worker

The Christmas period was a very busy time for our young people and families. So many of them from our uniform organisations came to join us in worship at the nativity service, and the Community Carol service. This was a great opportunity to build relationships with them. They really enjoyed the experience giving us positive feedback. We are hoping to build on this and perhaps welcome some new families to Messy Church, and Sunday club.

Our Sunday club has been a bit slow to restart after the Christmas holidays with the numbers fluctuating week to week. We keep in touch with all the families finding out how they are and offering support. Our young people have coped well this last year with the union of our former congregations and worshipping in two different buildings. As always, they are full of energy, ideas, and questions. We have some very interesting discussions, and they often think of others and want to help. We are currently exploring some new project ideas with them.

We have some new dates for our Messy Church, with the lifting of covid restrictions we have gone back to a full range of activities. We are therefore promoting this in the local area and focusing on rebuilding relationships with the local nurseries and schools. Hopefully this will bring back some of our previous regular families and some new ones.

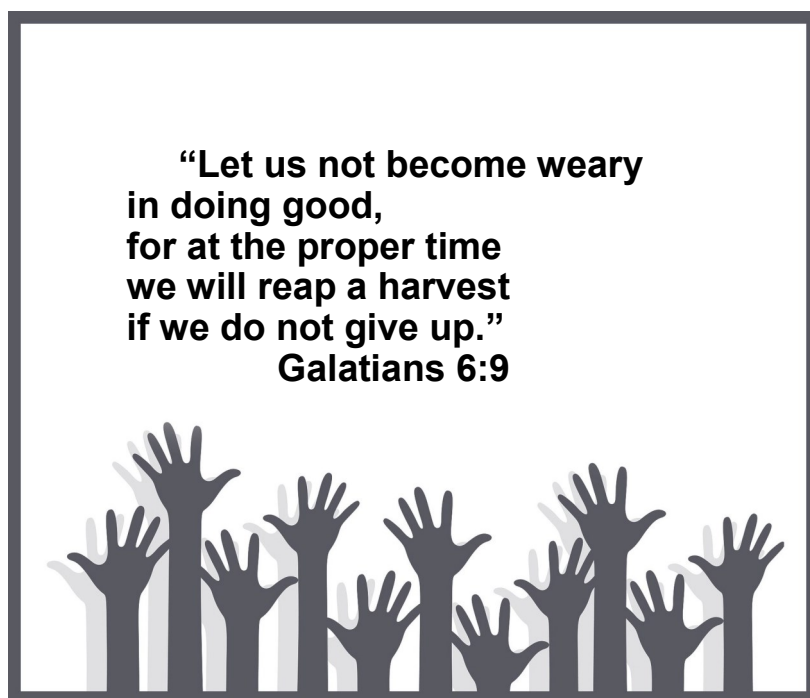
We are also hoping to have some form of holiday club this Summer. Our provisional dates are 8th-10th of August.

It has been lovely recently to welcome Andrea and some of the buggy brigade children for juice and biscuits at our after-worship fellowship on a Thursday morning. A great opportunity for intergenerational relationship building. They always bring a smile as they play and chat.

Working with our young people and their families is rewarding, inspiring, and lots of fun. I am always grateful to our volunteer teams who make our projects possible.

We have an exciting busy time ahead and are always looking for help whether with Sunday club, Messy Church, or our potential holiday club. If you or anyone you know would like to get involved in any of our youth and family activities, please get in touch.

Louise Reid
Family and youth worker



Thank you!

An enormous thank you to all our office bearers for their flexibility in this time of change, from our count teams to our welcome teams and AV teams and tea and coffee teams. Everyone has shown great patience, and we are thankful for our new teams working so well together.

Fiona

Congregational Register

Baptism – we give thanks for the baptism of:

We welcome Victoria Anne Campbell who was baptised 11th December 2022.

New member -

Victoria Anne Campbell

Disjunction – We wish every blessing to:

Margaret and Tom Parker

Iain Smith

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

Nancy Sinclair - December 2022

Ellen McMaster - December 2022

Margaret Meldrum - December 2022

Margaret Campbell - February 2023



Tribute to Nancy Sinclair.

We give thanks for the life of one of our elders, Nancy Sinclair, who passed away on the 5th December 2022 in the St Margaret of Scotland hospice, after a year long illness, bravely borne.

We think of Nancy's birth in Orkney, and her upbringing on Graemsay, which she loved, with a deep appreciation of the landscape, with the animals and the sea.

We think of her love of singing and playing the accordion, and her amazing gift of language, and her appreciation of words and blessings, and her gift for leading the Thursday service especially.

We think of Nancy's courage in moving to Glasgow, and of working life, and all those she helped. We remember her marriage to Harry, and her great joy and pride in her children Henry and Clare, and then in her grandchildren Lauren, Ellie and Jessica. Nancy loved them all so much, and we are so thankful for that family trip to Orkney when Nancy was 80, and for all the fun and connections rediscovered.

We think of Nancy's life at the keep fit and the art class, as a neighbour and as a friend, and her many years of service as an elder in Temple Anniesland church, and in the Guild and in the choir - her distinctive accent making everything she said like a melody. She was fun to be around, and had a dry sense of humour.

We think of her 85th birthday up in her flat, which was such a happy day, and then such a difficult time of illness, in the QEUH, Gartnavel and St Margaret of Scotland hospice, which Nancy bore stoically and with courage. We know that she was weary, and ready to meet her Lord, and so we are thankful for her peaceful end, with Clare at her side. We remember Clare, Henry and the wider family in these days of mourning, and of giving thanks for Nancy's life, and all that she shared with us.



The Church Choir

The Church Choir had a busy time in the period before Christmas, not only singing at the Christmas Church Services but also at the choir carol morning when over £500 was raised for church funds. Many thanks to all who contributed. This was followed by our joint service with St. Ninian's church.

We resumed our weekly choir practices in mid-January and regularly contribute an introit and an anthem at Sunday services.

Unfortunately several of our members have been suffering from ill health and we wish them a speedy recovery and look forward to having them back singing with us, hopefully soon.

Now we are preparing for lent and Easter and again I want to thank the members of the Choir for their ongoing support which I really appreciate.

If there is anyone out there who would like to join us in our Easter preparations (no previous singing experience necessary!) please do come along to our rehearsals in the St Margaret's building on Thursday evenings from 7pm-8:15pm. When you will be made most welcome.

Christine Furnish

The Friendship café.

The friendship café continues to meet every Tuesday from 10-11:30am and so far this year we have celebrated Robert Burns day with poetry and song and St Valentine's day. Forthcoming events will remember pancake Tuesday on the 21st February and St Patrick's day on the 14th of March, as it is the nearest Tuesday to the 17th of March. Then on Tuesday the 11th of April we shall celebrate Easter.

Many thanks to Nancy Cowden for making her Easter chicks again this year. If you want to buy some you had better hurry as they are selling like hot cakes. (not eggs!)

We are hoping to start a book and magazine exchange at the café each week where, if you wish, you can choose a book or magazine and once you have read it you can either return it or bring another book or magazine to replace it.

Many thanks to all who support the café and to everyone who generously gives of their time and energy to help in different ways. It is all much appreciated.

Christine Furnish.

Annie's place café

Annie's place café is on every Friday from 1-3pm in the Anniesland building. It has been great to welcome back some of our regulars from before covid and also some new faces. There is always time for a cuppa, some cake, and a chat. We have a different activity each week from 2-3pm these include singalongs, line dancing, crafts and games. Our new programme will also feature some gardening we are also open to suggestions for new activities. You can find our current programme on the church website or on posters in the church.

Everyone is welcome whether they just come for a cuppa and a chat or stay to watch or join in our activity. There is always a warm welcome so pop in some Friday to say hello.

A comment from Jan - Session clerk in St David's church, Knightswood.

Jan says: when I was dictating the St David's KS minutes direct onto my laptop. The poor machine obviously couldn't quite get to grips with my north of Scotland accent and decided to interpret "Knightswood Anniesland Trinity" as "night sweet, honest, long, Trinity."

That would indeed be an interesting name for our church!

Thanks

Can I thank everyone for their prayers, thoughts, cards and kind wishes as I recover from my time in hospital

I can assure you they were gratefully received.

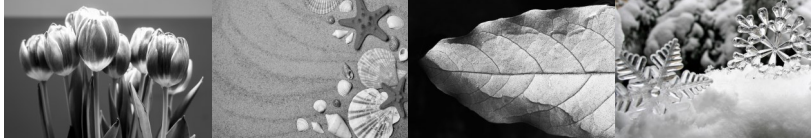
Fred Quinn

Recycling Resources

Sadly, the Glasgow play resource recycling charity that many of our youth organisations use. Is having to close as they have been unable to source suitable premises. They need to vacate their current premises on the 31st of March. They are a valuable source of affordable recycled materials which we use regularly for crafts and different projects in our Sunday club, Messy Church, holiday club and regular group activities.

It will be a big loss to us and many other community groups who access their service. Their volunteers work extremely hard and are always on hand to offer help and advice for projects. They are hoping that they may be saved if suitable affordable premises can be found.





“The Four Seasons” – Words, Music and other art forms!

Come and be part of the preparations to put an event on in November! No previous experience required!

Meeting **Sunday 26 March 2023 at Anniesland – Tea/Coffee from 15:30**

This event is co-ordinated by friends of “Crossrock” and open to all in Knightswood Anniesland Trinity Church who would like to be part of it!

Back in 1975 when some of Crossrock were staying on Iona we went to a service in the Abbey where a group called the Gaudette players did a presentation of readings and songs inspired by CS Lewis’s ‘The Four Loves’. ‘Crossrock and Friends’ then did their own version of that at Anniesland Cross Church in 1978.

Barbara Montgomery (née Morrison) thought we could do something similar based around “the Four Seasons” and has pulled some material together, which could be source material for a congregation; youth group; choir etc. to use for a presentation/ production/ or however they want – the possibilities are endless!

Jean Findlater played a big part in organising the 1978 presentation and we would like “the Four Seasons” to be a celebration of her life and dedicated to her.

For more information contact David Buchan, 07581197535 or david.buchan1956@gmail.com



247 Boys Brigade



The boys enjoyed taking part in the Carol Service and in the Nativity Service in December. We learned about the Christmas story in December and completed lots of different craft activities. We were given a great treat in December when we were invited along to The Mask and Puppet Theatre to see their Magician the Wednesday before Christmas. The boys (and leaders) had a fantastic evening. A huge thank you to Michael and Sarah at the Mask and Puppet theatre for arranging this for us.

Since starting back in January, we have welcomed three new anchor boys. We are continuing to learn new skills , including how to make a paper airplane this brought out the boys competitive spirit! We have been thinking about the environment and we will be learning more about different faiths around the world in the next few weeks and also thinking more about Lent and Easter.

The boys are extremely lively and have so much fun together. We are looking forward to a weekend away to Dalguise in Perthshire in the next couple of months.

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



Church Concert



Calling all stars of stage and screen !

On Saturday 13th May, we will be holding the first congregational concert of Knightswood Anniesland Trinity Church. The concert will start at 6:30pm and will be held in the sanctuary.

All the organisations have been asked to take part as well as the community groups who use our halls. I am still looking for other willing volunteers to come and showcase your talents. If you would like to come along and share a song, a dance, a story, a poem or even some stand up comedy with us, then please contact me to book a five to ten minute slot in the programme. No auditions required!


We are also hoping to have a short sketch. So, if acting or directing is your forte, then please let me know.

Pre –covid, the former Temple Anniesland Church held successful concerts every couple of years. These were great for community spirit and were such a lot of fun to watch and also take part in. Please mark the date in your diary, an evening not to be missed!


I look forward to hearing from you and finding out more about your hidden talents.

Gail Grieve





Giving street kids a hope and a future.



comfort international
a little can change a life

We are supporting Comfort International a Christian charity that does great work. There is more detail on page 5