



Congregation No. 161067  
Scottish Charity No. SCO15579

## NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2024

**I pray that you - being rooted and established in love - may have the power with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ"**

**Ephesians 3: 17-18**



The love of Jesus Christ is generous and beautiful, and overflows into our lives in such abundance. God's love is seen in Jesus - his desire to challenge corruption, to heal the sick, to come alongside the hurting. And the holy spirit makes this a living reality for us every day. We are so blessed. As the hymn says " This is my story, this is my song, praising my Saviour all the day long." We want to share the wonder of the love of Jesus Christ with all those around.

I am so deeply saddened to be in the situation where I have had to announce that I have to leave Knightswood Anniesland Trinity church. I have counted it a privilege to love and serve you, and it has been an amazing thing to share this time together. It is 13 years since I came to the then Temple Anniesland church, and we have shared so much together, joy and sadness, challenge and change and a pandemic! I have worked alongside you when we broadcast everything online, when we weren't allowed to sing, when life was scary. I have also celebrated with you weddings, baptisms and amazing youth nights and community concerts

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Knightswood Anniesland Trinity Church

which brought such life and fun and connection. You are such a creative bunch! We have explored book groups and retreats, new forms of family worship and study groups to learn more about our Christian faith, and you have shared so many insights and ideas, it has been a very rich time. Thank you all so much for all that you have taught me.

Sadly, in the last five years, we have been in a situation of constant readjustment because of shrinking resources in the national church which requires a reduction in both ministries and buildings. We have had difficult processes with many twists and turns. During this time, I have sought to be a pastor to anyone from both former congregations, during this time of transition and uncertainty. There has also been a lot of local politics, where at times our joint agreed missional vision has been disregarded by some in our leadership team. This has had many heartbreaking consequences. The intense and continual amount of pressure over these years has had a cumulative negative impact on my health and led me to discern that I am not called to lead you into this new union. My last service will therefore be the 18th of August, and after this my GP is signing me off.

In our service on the 11th August, I spoke of handing on the baton of faith to the next generation. This is a familiar pattern in the Bible, whether we think of Moses handing over to Joshua as leader to cross the river Jordan, or David knowing that his son Solomon was the one to build the temple. This is not how I envisioned passing on the baton in my ministry here, but I do feel the Spirit's movement in discerning this decision.

I am nevertheless heartbroken to leave you at this critical time, as I still think that if we collectively choose to work together to build Christ's

kingdom, there is so much potential here. We have good relations with so many amazing people amongst our young people and in our wider community, and there is a desire to build on these through community cafes, relations with sheltered housing complexes, children's work, Messy church and more. We have wonderful opportunities to worship and learn together in different ways, marvellous connections with the worldwide church, and so many chances to live out the teaching and love of Jesus. We want to take the opportunities to use our buildings for the benefit of all, to show hospitality and care. We have such great opportunities to do this - the question is will we take them?

In the time to come, we are joining together with people in Knightswood St David's church, we are changing our worship location, we are looking at developing our buildings to be more modern and missional. If you want to be involved in this please pray, volunteer, serve. If you feel this is not for you, please do not stand in the way of those who want to take this forward.

We have had a really difficult journey so far, but God has been and is faithful, and Christ's love has been lavished on us - how can we not share it with all we meet? My prayer is that we build on the work that has gone before, and build for future generations.

I will miss you all, and I thank you so much for the privilege of being your minister.

I carry you in my heart and prayers always,

Fiona



Deep thanksgiving.

I am so very grateful to all you have supported me and prayed for me over all these years. Your prayers have made all the difference, and given me strength and energy.

I am grateful to all my session clerks - Jim Stewart, Tom Griffiths, Gail Grieve and David Adams - they have all been exceptional - kind, thoughtful and gracious.

I appreciate all who have worked alongside us, all our family and youth workers, students and probationers. You have all enriched our lives with your different styles and ideas and passion for Jesus Christ.

To all the office bearers and elders, thank you for your loving service of Jesus Christ, and your visiting of your districts. I feel as if I have left a lot undone. Apologies to those I meant to visit, but I didn't get to you. I have tried to serve Jesus in my ministry, but I have struggled to find the hours in the day, to do all that I would have liked.

A particular thankyou to David Adams, Gail Grieve and Louise Reid for their exceptional work and support in recent years, when there has been so much change to deal with. There are many others who have also been exceptional, and I won't embarrass you by naming you, but you know who you are!

You have a really good team in KAT church, and my prayer is that as people join us from St David's church, that we can all work together humbly and lovingly, to honour Jesus Christ. I also take this opportunity to

wish Rev Graham Thain and his wife Mary well in their retirement. Soon an Interim Moderator and locum will be appointed for our church, and I know we will be in good hands as we go forward.

God's Holy spirit has been so much at work already, that this gives us hope for the future. If we fix our eyes on Jesus, and make space for His spirit, God can do amazing things in our midst. And so irrespective of which building we are in, or what minister we have, we seek to be faithful to our Lord.



**Dates for the diary.**

**Sunday 25th August** - 11am Souper Sunday service at St David's church.

**Friday 30th August** - 5.30 -7.30pm Messy church  
at the Anniesland building

**Friday 6th September** - training about good conversations  
(see Louise for details)

**Tuesday 10th September** - Presbytery meeting to consider the Scheme of  
Delegation recommendation

**Sunday 15th September** - The sacrament of communion will be  
celebrated.

**Saturday 21st September** - Youth development team evening at 6.30pm  
at the Anniesland building

**Friday 4th October** - 5.30pm - 7.30pm Messy church  
at the Anniesland building.

**Sunday 6th October** - 11am Harvest Thanksgiving service

**Sunday 20th October** - 11am first of our new united services (venue tbc)

**Saturday 2nd of November** - Mission coffee morning - St David's church

**Sunday 10th November** - 10.45am Service of Remembrance

**Thursday 21st November** at 7pm - Service of union for the newly united  
Knightswood Anniesland Trinity Church.

**Saturday 30th November** - 10am till 12 noon Youth development  
Christmas Fair - Anniesland building.

**Please note - services in September will be in the St Margaret's building, and in the first two weeks in October at the Anniesland building. Sometimes service venues are subject to change, so please always consult the KAT website or Facebook page for up to date information! After the Presbytery meeting in September, more venues will be able to be confirmed.**

**Anniesland building** is at 869 Crow Rd, G13 1LE and  
**St Margaret's building** is at 2000 Great Western Rd, G13 2HA

Our worship services are streamed on zoom, to access our regular Sunday morning worship on zoom please use  
**ID 971 7010 7502 Passcode 241564**  
**Phone numbers are 0203 481 5237 and 0203 481 5240**

For up to date information check out our **website**

**[www.katchurch.org.uk](http://www.katchurch.org.uk)**

and our **Facebook page**

**Knightswood Anniesland Trinity Church**

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