



TRINITY CHAT SPRING 2024

Musings from the manse

Snowdrops in the mud - hope after a long winter.



It seems to have been a long winter, with many storms and ice and sleet! It has been a winter to stay indoors and if possible, to try and feel warm. The symbolism of the snowdrop peeping through the mud, is even more meaningful - bringing the hope of spring, new growth and new beginnings.

Along with our sister congregation St David's, we have had a difficult time. The attempts to make a decision regarding our buildings has been long and arduous, and has left us weary. The Scheme of Delegation have now to make the decision for us, and then it will be taken to Presbytery for approval in May. We pray for them to make the best decision for the wellbeing and outreach possibilities for this area for the future.

In January, the accident of Rev Graham Thain, when he was knocked off his bicycle by a car, has shocked us all. We are deeply thankful that he has made such good progress after his injuries, and is home, and we

continue to pray for Graham and his wife Mary. It has been a grim time, watching and waiting, and we are so pleased at Graham being so much better.

The ongoing conflicts in the middle East and the Ukraine have also left us downcast at the amount of suffering and misery that so many are facing. You wonder when we will ever learn to stop fighting and live at peace.

There has been much to cause us to despair. However if the fragile looking snowdrop can emerge after a long winter, then God can also breath His life into us. As the days get longer, and the earth warms, plants and shrubs start growing, and green shoots emerge, so our spirits are lifted. Lent starts early this year, the period preparing us for Easter, a time of letting go, before resurrection, and this brings us hope even after a time of darkness.

We have no idea what building, or combination of buildings might be chosen. The core thing however is that God is calling us to build up his church. The Church of Scotland is having to close some buildings, and there are fewer ministers. However, the money from the sale of buildings is to reinvigorate the buildings that we do have, and to make them fit for purpose for the 21st century - to make them more modern, to have welcoming and flexible multipurpose spaces.

Perhaps you have visited churches where this process has already been worked though, and you have seen the difference this can make.

Yet there is no point in having beautiful places for worship and for community organisations to use, if there is no congregation there. So our

vision is to build Christ's church, to worship and learn together, to pray and to grow in our faith, and to see many people learn about the love of



Jesus Christ. This is our core - we value our faith and what it means to us so much, that we want to share it with everyone!

The verse that keeps returning to my mind just now is from Joshua 24: 15

“ But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day, whom you will serve.....”

When he is coming to the end of his life, Joshua asks the Israelites to choose what to do. Their choice is either to be distracted by the gods of the Amorites, or to continue to worship the Lord their God. The people choose to serve the Lord their God and to serve Him only.

We too have a choice. When we hear the decision regarding the building decision, whether we agree with it or not, we need to choose prayerfully how to respond. Some people will be hurt and disappointed, and we need to sit with those who are hurting, and acknowledge their pain. However, if God called us to love and serve Him before, has this changed? Are we still to love and serve one another? If we feel this is still our calling here in this part of Knightswood Anniesland, then let us continue with energy and dedication. God has always been with His people, and He can help us work through our different opinions, to listen attentively to one another, and to regain our unity in Christ, and to build a healthy vibrant Christian community. The possibilities for good are immense.

In morning worship, we have been thinking of the life of Moses. So the thing about him, was that he needed to keep coming back to God, and to lead, he needed the elders and the people of God to support him. He couldn't do it by himself. So the thing that is going to be crucial, is how well we all support one another, in prayer, understanding and grace.

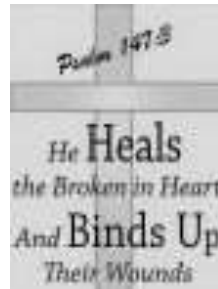


When we choose not to co-operate, then everyone is weakened. Nothing worthwhile is ever easy. Yet if we serve and look after each other, and are eager to share our faith, then God can work through us, and His holy spirit can do more than we can ever ask or imagine. So we need to be open to His promptings, and to be willing to go forward, to follow our Risen Lord into a new future.

May we be a people of hope, forgiven, forgiving, inspired and energised. And may many choose to continue to love and serve their heavenly Father, and to honour the name of Jesus Christ, as we share the love of Jesus with our hurting and broken world.

With love and prayers and blessing,

Fiona



Deeply Thankful for those who have served.

We want to thank our Treasurer Nancy Quinn for being our church Treasurer over the last 3 and a half years. She has not only had to learn a whole new way of working, but also to deal with accrued accounts, and guided us with great patience through the union two years ago. This was a massive undertaking, and we are grateful to Nancy, Beatrice and the count teams. So many worked together to work all this through. The complications - trying to sort our water rates and work with our various utility companies has been an enormous task in itself.

Nancy now feels it is the time to step down, and we are very grateful for her immense work with our finances, and for leaving them in such good order. We thanked Nancy at a service in January, but also wanted to do so in

the church magazine. We hope that she can now enjoy more time with Fred, and have some well earned time off!

Beatrice has also worked alongside Nancy in reconciliations and accounts, and she has also decided this is the right time to stop. Beatrice has provided a much appreciated steadying hand and sense of humour in the labyrinth of figures, and we are very grateful to her also.



A new team.

We asked for people to come and form a new financial team, and we prayerfully looked to God, conscious that without new volunteers, we would need to outsource this to a commercial company. We are grateful for a new team who have come forward. Audrey Spence has agreed to do our accounts, and we are so appreciative for this. Fiona Hay has volunteered to deal with our Gift Aid, and Eileen Ross has agreed to provide administrative support. As a finance team, everyone is just working out their new roles, and it will take a while to bed in. We are appreciative of Nancy and Beatrice completing the accounts for 2023, and also giving guidance in this time of transition. If you have financial queries about offerings or Gift Aid, please contact Audrey, Gail or David in the first instance, and they should be able to guide you in the right direction.

We are so thankful for the generous giving of the congregation, which has enabled us to do so much in our church family, and to give into the wider church.

Thankyou.

Thanks also to our Presbytery Elder - Anne Weir.

We want to express our appreciation of Anne's many years as our Presbytery Elder, for both Temple Anniesland and for Knightswood Anniesland church. Anne attended so many meetings in churches all over Glasgow, and then made reports to Kirk Session meetings, and also in our church magazine.

Anne selected the news that especially affected our part of Glasgow, and people known to the congregation. She had a passion to convey this to everyone, and to remind us that we are part of a bigger church family. We are very grateful for her commitment to this important work, and for her energy in helping us know more about what is happening in our Presbyterian family - the issues and the people. Thank you to Anne, who is now retiring from this role, and we wish her every blessing.

Robert MacFarlane is now our new Knightswood Anniesland Trinity Presbytery Elder, and we remember him in prayer as he embarks upon this role.



New faces.

We are delighted to welcome two new elders, Fiona and Christine Hay. Fiona and Christine came from Balshagray Victoria Park Church, where they served as elders, until the union with Partick South Church. They joined Knightswood Anniesland Trinity Church in 2023, and now feel it the right time to be admitted as elders to our Kirk Session. The edicts have been read, and the service of admission took place on 4th February. We pray for them as they get to know their fellow elders in the Kirk Session and Parish Grouping Council, and find their new path. They are already very much involved in the choir, which is wonderful!

Prayer times- Tuesday evenings on zoom from 7.30- 8.30pm.

(ID 89374818673 Passcode prayer Phone passcode 629459)

“ Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the one who hears it, and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference.”

Max Lucado

As a church family, we believe in the power of prayer. Many people say their prayers every night, which is wonderful. We might give thanks for all that is good, and pray about the things in the world that are worrying us, both personal and international. Prayers make a difference, even though everything does not always work out the way that we hope.

There are many times for prayer in our church family, in worship, in quiet moments, at Retreats, and Book Group. Another time is when KAT church and St David’s Knightswood people get together on a Tuesday evening to pray together. If anyone would like more information, please contact Fiona or one of our Session Clerks for more information. It is a time when we can remember the power of praying together, which is such a blessing.



Hello everyone.

I hope this finds you all safe and well. What a windy and wet start we have had to the new year. I always find January a bit of a depressing month..... that just seems so long, with dark mornings, not much sunshine and lots of rain. I hope the storms have not caused too much damage to your homes and gardens. I was incredibly surprised to see my garden fence still standing after the gale force winds last weekend, especially as I watched it swaying backwards and forwards on Sunday night.

What news do I have for the new year? The Parish Grouping Council has had it's first meeting of 2024. The elders from both congregations (KAT Church and St David's) have been trying to come up with ideas of joint ventures we could have in preparation for St David's joining us later in the year. There will be some joint services over the next few months, a film afternoon, a church quiz, a tabletop sale and a bbq to name but a few. Safe to say, there will be a lot of tea, coffee and cake consumed at most of these events.

We were all sad that Rev Graham Thain was unable to come along to our first meeting of the year due to his accident. Please continue to keep Graham and his family in your prayers in the weeks and months to come as he recuperates.

The Session Clerks and a couple of other elders from each congregation have met with the Scheme of Delegation team who are trying to decide which configuration of buildings we will need. As we all know, this is no easy task. Please pray for them as they try to process the information they have gathered on their visit to each of the buildings. The decision that they make, will determine, and shape our future together as we share God's love with each other and in the wider community not only now but for the generations to come.

We will know the answer by the end of April/beginning of May.

I hope to see you at some of our joint events over the next few months..... dates are all in the magazine....I hear the Quiz Night is not to be missed! I wonder who the quizmaster will be

With love and blessings

Gail Grieve



Joint Session Clerk

Congregational Register

New member - We welcome

Olive Duncan

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

Katy Mackay - Spring 2023

Thomas Watson - December 2023

Jean Campbell - January 2024

Thank you for your support for the book

“Love Songs for Healing and Hope.”



I had a book promotion evening in November, and want to thank people for their support and prayers. On the evening, and in the months afterwards, £800 was raised from the book by sales and donations. This means that £400 has been sent to the counselling charity Quiet Waters, and £400 to the charity Richmond’s Hope, to support bereaved children.

Thank you everyone!

Family and Youth Worker

The Christmas period was busy with lots of opportunities to engage young people and their families in the church activities. It is a time that often brings people who do not usually attend church into worship services.

The Youth Development Christmas Fair was well supported by our wider church family. Gail and the Youth Development Team did a great job of organising and encouraging the young people from our uniform groups and their families to get involved. As always half of the money raised is given to a local charity. This year over £2000 was raised with over £1000 being given to Richmond's Hope a charity which supports bereaved children and has a base in Ibrox. It is so encouraging to see young people working to help others.

The Community Carol Service was truly intergenerational. It was wonderful to see so many young people sharing their talents singing, playing music, and having them and their families joining in worship.

It was a privilege to be involved with the Chaplaincy Team in both the primary and secondary schools in December. Sharing the Christmas story and listening to their thoughts and ideas. The highlight for me was having 450 of the primary school pupils from P2-P7, together with staff and parent helpers for their school Christmas Assembly in the Anniesland building. It was great to see everyone sharing together listening to the Christmas story, singing, and leading prayers.

At Christmas Messy Church it was lovely to welcome new and returning families to share the Christmas story, games, and food together. Messy Church is an intergenerational mix of fun, games, crafts, songs, and stories. We have several upcoming Messy Church dates in the spring diary I encourage you to come and try it for yourself it is lots of fun and you will be made most welcome.

As the winter storms start to recede and we see the beginning of lighter nights and the first green shoots of spring flowers appearing, we move into preparing for Lent and Easter. There are many opportunities to get together and share in a variety of activities. Check out the Church Diary pages for the full list.

In Sunday Club we are working with the idea of a large art collage to help us explore and bring to life the Easter story. We will work on it over several weeks which will allow as many of our young people as possible to be part of it.

We continue our Youth Group for pupils of Secondary school age. It is a small group which meets once a month on Sunday afternoon. We share ideas and discuss what is currently on their minds. Whether that is exam stress, issues with friends or world events. It is a privilege to spend time and explore faith with them. Please get in touch if you would like more details, or know any young people who might be interested in joining the group.

The church family Quiz Night on the 8th of March is a chance for all age groups to come together. It is an opportunity to have fun, share food and get to know each other better it should be lots of fun with a bit of friendly competitiveness.

Another of the activities I most look forward to at Easter is the early morning worship service in the park. It is wonderful to worship in the open air with all ages, coming together and often a few pets. Egg rolling is always an option and there is a chance to chat over breakfast together afterwards. It is a wonderful way to celebrate our risen Lord on Easter morning.

I hope 2024 is a year of peace and growing in Christ's love together.

Louise Reid (Family and Youth Worker)



Communications

I am grateful to our Communications Team for all their efforts in keeping the church family informed of all that is going on. There is such a variety of ways we do this including the church magazine, and posters which we put up inside and outside both church buildings and in the local area.

There is also Facebook, the website, Sunday and Thursday intimations, and updates shared at the Tuesday Friendship and Friday Annie's Place cafes. The most effective communication tool we have is speaking to each other. Often this is the quickest way to share what is going on in the church family. It also gives an opportunity to encourage others to join in. A personal invitation or recommendation is much more effective than a flier or post can ever be. So please share with others all that our church family offers, there is such a variety to suit all tastes.

If you are interested in becoming part of our Communications Team, please get in touch.

Our Audio-Visual Team is looking to expand and develop our skill base. To this end we are holding a second informal introduction session for anyone who is interested in finding out more. It will be held in the St Margaret's building at 2pm on Sunday the 25th of February. It will be an opportunity to meet the team, ask questions, see how systems work and find out what would be involved.

Please get in touch if you are interested or would like more information.

Email louise.reid@katchurch.org.uk

Louise Reid Communications

Church Flowers



We should like to thank all the members who kindly donate flowers or give through the flower funds. It is very much appreciated.

A big thank you to all the volunteers in the St Margaret's building for all their hard work over the Christmas season. The men for putting up and decorating the large tree, also the members who knitted our nativity, made our advent ring, and

decorated all the windows. Well done to all.

Every blessing in 2024

Aileen Campbell – Flower Convener St Margaret's building

Isobel Brown – Flower Convener Anniesland building

AV training session

We are looking to add to our Audio-Visual Team and are holding a second informal introduction session on Sunday the 25th of February at 2pm in the St Margaret's building. It 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 for more details.



Church Choir

The Choir had a few weeks' break from rehearsals over the Festive Period but are now back rehearsing each Thursday evening between 7pm and 8pm.

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME!

We try to sing introits and anthems associated with the themes of the Church Year and hope you enjoy them. We are now preparing music for Lent and Easter. Thanks to members of the congregation for their favourable comments about our singing: it really does encourage us. If there is any music you would like to hear, please tell myself or members of the Choir and, if possible, we shall try to oblige.

As I have said before we also enjoy socialising and before Christmas we spent an evening together eating, chatting and completing quizzes, at which the Choir members are very good.

I wish to thank the Choir for their support and for coming to Choir practices through the storms, torrential rain, ice and snow on Thursday evenings.

Wishing all a peaceful 2024,
Christine Furnish

Save those Used Stamps

We don't receive as many letters and cards these days, so please remember to save your used stamps. Stamps of all kinds are valuable to the church and other charities. If you have no use for them, please cut them out (leaving 1cm of envelope) and pop them in the boxes: in the old hall (Anniesland) or in the corridor by the kitchen (St. Margaret's).

Thanks.

2024 World Day of Prayer: Friday 1st March

'I beg you to bear with one another in love.' Eph 4:2

Every year on (or about) the first Friday in March, Christians around the world of all ages, denominations and Church Groups gather in small groups and large congregations using the same basic form of worship, written by women of a different country each year. The theme is chosen by the World Day of Prayer International Committee, a number of years in advance.

How appropriate then, that over the past four years a group of ecumenical Palestinian Christian women have worked collectively to pray and reflect on the theme and they invite us to join them this year as they pray for peace, for justice and for love and unity.

Our nearest service will be in the Salvation Army Centre, 1 Houldsworth Street, G3 8DU. It starts at 12.30 and is followed by a light lunch. Do join us, a warm welcome awaits you.

Scripture Union Holidays – Join in the adventure!

With over 150 years of experience organising holidays for young people, SU aims to provide something for everyone from Primary 5 to Secondary 6 at venues throughout Scotland. In the Easter holidays there are all-age Multi-Activity camps and Study Camps for S4-S6.

In addition to Multi-Activity camps in the summer, there are camps focussed on Football, Canoeing, Baking and Surfing (amongst other things) plus Magnitude and Nerdcom (?) all giving young people the opportunity to explore the Bible whilst having a great holiday. More information is available online at suholidays.org.uk

The holidays are all-inclusive and SU strives to keep prices affordable. However, they appreciate that the cost may be challenging for some families.

Please visit suholidays.org.uk/financial_help or call **0141 352 7620** to find out about help from SU's Holidays Fund.



Annie's Place Café

Our Annie's volunteers enjoyed the break over Christmas but are glad to be welcoming our regulars and some new faces again. We enjoyed catching up with everyone over tea, coffee and biscuits. We have a varied weekly programme including, quizzes, line dancing, crafts, table games and many more. We are pleased that the Partick Pluckers Ukulele Group are able to play for us again and leading us in a sing along. This is on the 1st of March at 1:30pm. We had so much fun the last time they played.

You can check out Annie's Place café's full programme on the church website or posters in the church buildings.

Drop in sometime on a Friday between 1pm and 3pm in the Anniesland building. You will find a warm welcome and a place to chill and chat.

Louise and the Annie's Cafe team

Friendship Café

I hope you all had a good Christmas and are coping with our very changeable weather. Weatherwise each day is an adventure when you live in Scotland. Will there be storms with torrential rain, ice, snow or even sunshine? The weather in Scotland is never uninteresting!

The Cafe meets on Tuesdays between 10 and 11.30am. We even met over the Christmas holiday period when a good number of brave souls joined us.

Before Christmas we had a Christmas party which people appeared to enjoy and this week we celebrated the memory of Robert Burns with Irn bru, oatcakes and cheese and other Scottish delicacies.

In the coming months we plan to mark Pancake Tuesday and Valentines Day on 13th February, St Patrick's Day on 12th March and then have an Easter celebration on 26th March.

Everyone is invited along to these events and will be made most welcome. The library continues to be well used and jigsaws have been added to what can be borrowed.

On account of the generosity of our Café Friends in 2023, we donated £3,374 to Church Funds. Many thanks to all who contributed to this great total.

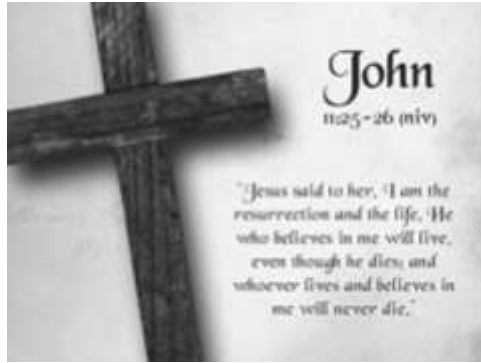
If you can, do come and join us on Tuesday mornings for tea/coffee, toast, biscuits and a chat. We look forward to meeting you then.

In the meantime stay safe in the storms and look after yourself.

I hope 2024 is good for you.

Christine Furnish





247 Boys Brigade



We had our Christmas party and lots of fun was had by all. We took the boys through to see the Christmas tree in the church, only to find that “Santa” had come along to visit and was sitting underneath the tree with gifts for each of them.

This caused great excitement as you can imagine!

Since starting back in January, we have welcomed two new members in Junior Section. We are continuing to work through the new programme and have enjoyed learning about nocturnal animals, how to make snow and getting our teddies to zip wire across the hall as well as all our usual activities – games, marching, gymnastics etc.

We are currently planning our next church sleepover and weekend away for the Junior and Company Section boys.

If you ever pass the hall on a Wednesday night, you will hear how much fun the boys have together. So if you know of anyone in Primary 1 and above, who would like to join, then please get in touch.

Gail Grieve

Officer in Charge

201st Guides

We had a great night out before Christmas roller skating at Rollerstop and we are really looking forward to another term full of fun activities. The guides have been working towards their Express Myself award which is all about communication and being a good listener. The guides also had great fun at our spa night making face masks and lip scrubs.

We are all really looking forward to a sleepover at Sea Life in March. In February we will celebrate Thinking Day and all of our guides, new and old, will be making or renewing their promise and thinking about what the promise means to them.

Guides is a relaxed, welcoming space where you can have fun, learn and be yourself with good friends from 10 to 14 years old. If you know of anyone who would like to join then please get in touch.

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/>



Emma, Laura and Karen
Unit Leaders

201st Glasgow Brownies

The Tuesday Brownies have been very busy since September working on our Have Adventures theme. We have completed first aid courses and been exploring space and out door activities including the Country Code and simple map skills. We were lucky enough to have students from Glasgow University doing a science evening involving the senses which the girls enjoyed.

This session the theme is Express Myself where the activities are based around good health and wellbeing and being a good listener and communicator.

Congratulations goes to Charlotte Dumas who gained her Brownie Gold award having completed all the activities to gain the 6 Theme awards and now has moved up to the Guide unit.

Lesley Murray
Brownie Leader



1st Kelvinside Rainbows



After all the excitement of our 30th Birthday celebrations last term, this term the Rainbows will be working on their Agility Badge. We have lots of activities planned to mark the 2024 Olympics and plan to host our own mini version! Other themes for our activities include being Safety Superheroes, Master Recyclers and Fantastic Constructors. We will also celebrate World Thinking Day on the 22nd February. World Thinking Day is celebrated by ten million girls worldwide and has taken place every 22nd February since 1926. It remains a day for all Guides and Girl Scouts to think of each other and celebrate our sisters all around the world.

We are looking forward to all of it!

Claire, Natasha, Hannah, Sylvie and Caroline

