



Congregation No. 161067
Scottish Charity No. SCO15579



TRINITY CHAT Summer 2024

Musings from the manse

“ Come, holy spirit, come “

“ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the holy spirit, you may abound in hope”

Romans 15: 13

Dear friends, this is a wonderful time of the Christian year. The season of Pentecost is one of hope, new life and energy, after the coming of God’s holy spirit at Pentecost, 50 days after the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is a time when we welcome the holy spirit into our lives, and into our church and community. We pray for the holy spirit to touch our hearts and minds, to bring healing and love, energy and inspiration and vision. It is often called the birthday of the church, and it is a time of celebration and renewal.

By now we had hoped to have a determination of our buildings situation, as the Scheme of delegation panel worked out what is the best configuration of our buildings for mission. Sadly, because of the illness of one of the panel, this has now been delayed. Alastair is now much better,

Knightswood Anniesland Trinity Church

for which we give thanks, but it means that the recommendation is not to go to Presbytery till its September meeting. The panel have realised that this delay is very frustrating, and are hoping to make their recommendation public at a congregational meeting at the end of July or the beginning of August, so we have more time to prepare before the union in October.

To give an update on the process itself, they have now had the building survey on the Anniesland building, and have requested two more surveys on the St Margaret's building, and the St David's building. This means that all the buildings will have had professional surveys to assess the condition of their fabric. All these surveys are already underway, and this means that the Scheme of delegation will have the information they need. They have also seen all the previous surveys, and relevant papers from Designed to Succeed, and spoken with representatives from those associated with each building. At the moment, we don't know the outcome of all of this, which is most unsettling, especially from a planning point of view.

We have waited a long time for this building decision, and I understand that we are all a bit weary. We need to pray for churches up and down the land, that the best missional decisions are made, so the best buildings in the most strategic places are retained, so that Christian communities can grow and flourish. We pray for the holy spirit to come, and to show us how to be church. The question is not just about buildings, but about our very identity. How do we show love in our church family, to make sure that everyone feels seen and supported? How do we demonstrate the meaning and relevance of the Christian message to all ages in our parish? How do we



connect with everyone in our community, offering love, and healing and hope? We need every person to contribute to working towards this vision, in prayer, in attitude and in service. We are praying for the holy spirit to guide us as to how to create a new stronger more vibrant community here in this place.

For some, this is maybe not what you want, and indeed some of you have told me just this. The old ways are familiar and feel safe. However in church history, the people of God have always had to change and adapt, whether it was Moses leading the people out of Egypt, or being in exile after the Babylonian invasion of Jerusalem. In the days of the early church, the book of Acts shows how the people had to keep adapting to different challenges, questioning how to keep faithful to Jesus' message, but also to adapt to different cultures and situations. The church is always reforming, and it is no different in our generation. And we rely on the holy spirit to help us - to bring us closer to Jesus, so we can be His faithful ambassadors.

And so we are not to lose heart. We have a number of events over the summer to give us opportunities to be together, but we have also intentionally tried to make things a little quieter, to give us a well earned rest. The session ahead in the autumn is going to be busy, a time of letting go of some things, and then of embracing a new way ahead. It will involve change and uncertainty and that will be hard. For some, I know it might be too much. We are praying that out of this time, comes a constructive way forward, so we can build a faithful, creative and loving Christian community, which can grow in this part of the city. Please pray and dream and share ideas as to how we might do this.

Every blessing for a peaceful and restful summer,

Fiona

Pastoral.

As a result of worshipping in different buildings in different months, and changes in elder's districts, we are not always noticing if people are unwell or away from church for a while. If you hear of some-one who is unwell, who would like prayers or a visit, please contact Fiona directly, or one of our Session clerks - David or Gail. We want to support people wherever we can.

We continue to pray for the Rev Graham Thain and his recovery after his accident in January. He is making progress, and he and Mary appreciate your prayers and good wishes.

We welcome all the opportunities to get to know our friends in the St David's Knightswood congregation, and to share different events with them. We keep one another in our prayers, as we prepare for union in the autumn.



Continue steadfastly in prayer,
being watchful in it with thanksgiving.
Colossians 4:2

Our Church Vision

1. To receive God's love and to share it with others,
2. Convictions about our orthodox faith in the incarnate and Risen Jesus Christ,
3. To look after everyone in the church family and community by getting to know one another by listening and showing patience and care.,
4. A desire that our church family be a place of acceptance, belonging and healing,
5. To build trained teams to assist in future ministry and outreach,
6. A desire to be intergenerational, and for each age group to be cared for and to learn from each other,
7. To support our frailer members, and also our children and families;
8. A desire to be open to learn more about our Christian faith through prayer and Bible study,
9. Where we have different opinions, to seek to be respectful of other viewpoints,
10. To be creative in our ways of connecting with God, and deepening our faith through, for example, spiritual retreats, contemplative prayer, art etc.,
11. To share our faith with others in the community in relevant, loving and innovative ways.

We are very grateful to everyone who has been working so hard in our church family in recent months, those who supported our Easter services, our messy church events, and many social and fundraising events. Our joint service with St David's raised over £886 for the work of Christian Aid, and we are grateful to everyone who gave so generously, and to those who made the bread and cheese lunch. Thank you too to those who have come to our study group 'A life worth living' and also our book group "Sensible shoes".

One of our recent innovations has been "café church", and we have loved being able to have collaborative worship in a more relaxed style. Our topics ranged from interactive worship, mindfulness and religious freedom. They are once a month at 6.30pm, and will stop over the summer, and restart in September.

A few dates for your diary

check out the full list of church dates later in the magazine.

Saturday 1st June - 10.30am till 3.30pm Retreat with Sharon Garlough Brown in the Anniesland building. This is free, but suggested donation £10.

Sunday 23rd June in the evening,

Praise gathering in the Royal Concert Hall at 7pm. The tickets are £29.50 each. Lindsay is happy to organise a group of people to go to the If you are interested in going along, she will be at worship on the 2nd of June

Wednesday 10th July and Wednesday 14th August.

There is summer reflective worship in the Anniesland sanctuary from 7-8pm

On 24th August, there is the opportunity to go for a day Retreat to the Bield at Blackruthven in Perthshire. Places are limited to 10, and cost £35 for a period of 10am till 4pm. We plan to take cars, and give lifts to those who wish them. Please let Fiona know if you are interested.

Photos of the Bield are later in the magazine, to give you an idea of its facilities, which include a creativity/ craft room, a swimming pool, a labyrinth and lovely grounds to walk in.

From David Adams Joint Session Clerk

Greetings, one and all. Are you enjoying the warm weather? Having moaned, groaned and otherwise being a right wee torn-face during the wet, windy and miserable weather I welcomed the sun, basked in it for at least fifteen minutes before deciding that it was far too hot and clammy and started wishing it would rain again.

As you can see, I am a man who knows what he likes and can be contented with his lot no matter what, and if you believe that, you'll believe anything.

Decision making can be a real test of our state of mind. How much information do we need to reach that decision? Sometimes too much information will bog us down in minute detail. In the past I have used a system thought up during a sleepless night while I wrestled with which car I should buy next after my then present one had given up the ghost. I created two lists, one good, one bad and gave them marks out of ten for how good or bad each attribute or otherwise the vehicle had, e.g. cost, comfort, speed, fuel consumption, could I see over the dashboard when driving, added up the plusses and minuses and made my choice for the one in which the plus points were higher than the minus points. Mind you, it all went down the drain when I went to the garage and I chose the red one over the blue one.

Where is this leading us? No prizes for working out that it has something to do with the choice of building which will be our place of worship for our united congregation. That decision has been handed over to a team of three members of Presbytery and, as many of you will now know, there has been a delay due the illness of the convener of the group, Rev Alastair Duncan. Above all at this time, we wish Alastair well and hope that he will make a full recovery. The decision will come in due course and it's my hope that we will all accept whatever it is and carry on working together as we have been up to now. I'm sure you'll all be glad that it's not me who has to make the decision. I know I am.

David Adams
Joint Session Clerk.

From Gail Grieve Joint Session Clerk

Hello everyone.

I hope this finds you all safe and well and that you are all enjoying this beautiful weather we have had over the last few days. As I write this I am packing for a weekend away with the Boys Brigade to Dalguise in Perthshire ... you will read more about this later in the magazine. It is much easier packing when the sun is shining!

Throughout the weekend the boys will be learning some new skills and concentrating on teamwork. Working as part of a team is how success can be achieved. We saw evidence of this at the church quiz night on Friday 8th March. Lots of fun was had by all as each team worked together on the various rounds of questions. I have to say some teams were more competitive than others! The highlight of the evening was not presenting medals to the winning team but presenting wooden spoons to the runners up. I have never seen so many people being so happy that they had a new wooden spoon!

In the coming months in the run up to the union with our friends from St David's Knightswood we will all need to work together with the members of the Kirk Session and Parish Grouping Council to make this Union a success regardless of which building or buildings are chosen.

We had hoped that the decision would have been made by now but as we all know, this has been delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. Please continue to pray for the members of the Scheme of Delegation as they deliberate our future.

Hopefully see you all soon ... providing I survive our trip to PGL Dalguise!

With love and blessings

Gail Grieve

Joint Session Clerk



**Statement from the parish grouping council meeting
on the 22nd of May 2024**

The date of retiral of the Rev Graham Thain is the 13th October. The elders of the parish grouping council confirm their intention that the first service of united worship will be on the 20th October, at the place determined by the Scheme of Delegation panel, and that Presbytery will determine the date of the union for Knightswood Anniesland Trinity church

From our Finance co-ordinator

Well, it has been a few months now since our new finance team was formed and it has taken a bit of time trying to sort out all the different things needing changed over and set up but we are now starting to settle into our roles.

Fiona has made her first submission to HMRC for the tax on Gift Aid donations and thankfully all went well, and we received the money, so well done Fiona! Eileen is now starting to find her way around the administrative duties that being part of the finance team entails which will be really helpful going forward and I have carried out my first couple of months reconciliation of the accounts which has been insightful and allowed me to get used to using a new accounting software.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Nancy for the mammoth task of sorting all the changeover of contact detail etc. for the Utilities, Bank and Church of Scotland etc. (especially the bank as that was just a nightmare for her!) and for taking the time to show myself, Fiona and Eileen our roles within the Finance Team and thank you to Beatrice for taking the time to show me how to use the accounting software and for both Beatrice and Nancy being available to advise as different things crop

up, and I'm sure there will many things over the next year as we get used to all the different aspects of the church finances and administration. I know I will definitely be needing some guidance from Nancy when we join with St Davids!

I would especially like to thank the Sunday count teams for the work they do and for the breakdowns they provide for each Sunday's income as this has been so helpful to me when posting the information onto the accounting software.

I would also like to thank Louise for co-ordinating the IT side of things, getting us set up as users on the church system and organising our email accounts to enable us to carry out our roles.

With regards to the church finances, I am still trying to familiarise myself with all the incomings and outgoings within the church now that things have settled down after the changeover, however I agree with Nancy's previous reports that the church energy costs are a big chunk of our outgoings and we should be mindful of what we are using but hopefully now that the warmer weather seems to be heading our way, these bills will reduce over the summer months and help out the bank balance.

Many thanks to all our members who give regularly and generously this is a main source of income and remember if you pay income tax and have not already done so, I would encourage you to complete the form to allow us to claim back 25% of you regular offering through Gift Aid as this is another great source of income to help with the church running costs.

All in all, things seem to be taking shape and it will all be second nature to us in no time!

Audrey Spence
Finance Co-ordinator



Family and youth worker

Easter brought many opportunities to connect with the young people and families in our church and wider community.

We were privileged as part of the chaplaincy team to work with first year pupils in Knightswood secondary school. We set up reflective spaces with an Easter theme. This offered the pupils a chance to take some time out. Time to think, be creative, reflect, and express their ideas and opinions. It is interesting to hear their concerns about our world, where they are in their own lives and their hopes and dreams. It was a good opportunity to build relationships with the pupils and some of the teaching staff.

At the Tabletop sale in St David's church, I hosted an easter themed craft make and take table. This was a space to be creative, have fun and share stories together. It allowed me to meet some of the families from St David's congregation. Creating these new relationships is so important for the growth of our church and building its future.

It was good to have families join us for the early morning Easter worship in Knightswood park on Easter Sunday. It was a glorious morning and such a beautiful experience. All generations coming together in the open air to praise and worship our risen Lord. Afterwards we shared a lovely breakfast together which was hosted by St David's church. This gave us time to chat and get to know each other better. There is a picture later in the magazine.

Sunday club has been a bit up and down recently. With some families with extra family responsibilities and pressures making it difficult to come along on Sunday mornings. We continue to support and encourage them. Over the summer Sunday club will be less formal with a focus on games and crafts with bible themes. Sometimes it is easier for families to attend over the summer holidays as they can have less pressures and a bit more time.

Our youth group has not met for a few months as some of our young people

have been preparing for and are now sitting their exams. The exam results will be out in August. please pray for them as it is a very stressful time. Please pray for all our young people and families that the summer holidays are a time of fun, rest, and renewal.

Messy church will have a break over the summer to give our volunteers a rest and we can come back in August energised and refreshed. We are planning to have more frequent Messy Church evenings in the Autumn and next year.

Unfortunately, we will not manage a holiday club this Summer, due to a lack of volunteers. Because the children attend without their adult carers, we need a larger number of volunteers to keep everyone safe.

We do want to keep in touch with those families we already know and to attract new families to the church. So, we are planning an afternoon of music, fun and games for families on the 3rd of August which will be less of a strain on the volunteers we do have.

Thank you to all our volunteers without whom we would not be able to have our youth activities like Sunday club and Messy Church. If you can offer any time and would like to join our team, please get in touch with me by email louise.reid@katchurch.org.uk

I hope you all enjoy the summer and find time to rest and relax.
Louise Reid
family and youth worker.

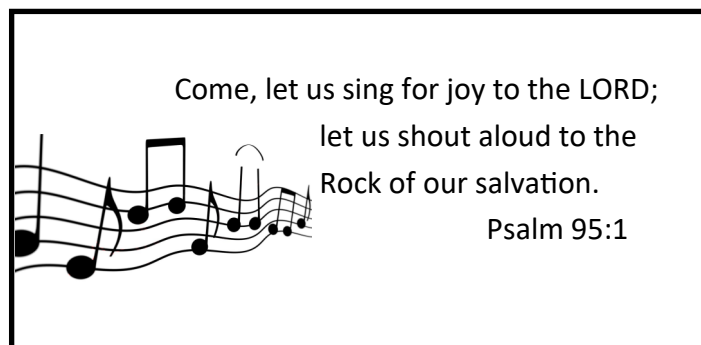
"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

Matthew 11: 28-29 NIV

Good Friday Music and Meditations

The culmination of Holy Week lunchtime services was rather different this year with a special service of music and meditations. We were pleased to welcome the Ronas String Quartet who performed a series of beautiful and sometimes moving pieces, The Seven Last Words of Christ (composed by Joseph Haydn; first performed 1787). These were interspersed with readings and meditations from our minister Fiona and Rev Stuart Matthews, Interim Moderator at St. David's Knightswood, and time for personal reflection.

The service was well attended and it was good to take time amid the busy-ness of Easter to be still and reflect on the true meaning of the season. Many thanks to everyone who took part.



Anatomy of a string quartet.

The Ronas Quartet has only recently started playing chamber music together on a regular basis. As standard in a string quartet there are two violin players, one viola and one 'cello. The 1st violin is Nigel Mason, 2nd violin is Donald Montgomery, The viola is Claire Griffiths, and the cello is played by David Macdonald.

It may be of interest to know a little about the background of each player.

Nigel was born in Hull, England, but moved to Kobe, Japan, as a child, where he started to learn to play the violin. The family returned to Britain but were then sent to Philadelphia, USA, due to Nigel's father's job as a Marine Engineer with Lloyds Register of Shipping. During his time at school Nigel continued violin studies and eventually went to West Virginia University, graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Music. He returned to Britain in 1978 and moved to Glasgow where he started work with the RSNO – and he's still with them. He enjoys chamber music and playing with his colleagues and friends in the Ronas Quartet.

Music has been important to **Donald** for as long as he can remember. He was fortunate in having an opportunity to begin violin lessons at the age of 7 and grew up playing in youth orchestras, including the National Youth String Orchestra of Scotland. His violin teacher was also a great enthusiast for traditional fiddle music, so this was to give him an additional string to his bow. Although his career took him into the field of medicine, and later ophthalmic surgery, he was able to keep in touch with friends who had made music their profession. He was also to discover how listening to classical music in the operating theatre could be so soothing for both the patient and surgeon alike. Now that he's retired, he's enjoying having more time to devote to the violin and he considered it a real privilege to have the opportunity to perform Haydn's moving masterpiece at the recent Good Friday service.

Claire was born and brought up in Lerwick in the Shetland Islands. Her violin lessons started just as she moved to Secondary school, and as a violinist she took part in the Edinburgh Youth Orchestra and the National Youth String Orchestra of Scotland. In her final year at school, with no violin teacher available on the Island, she took up viola, and loved it. On leaving school she studied viola at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music in Glasgow. She then worked in an orchestra in Holland for a year and after returning to Glasgow, has done a great deal of free-lance work with all the major orchestras in the city alongside a teaching career.

David Macdonald started playing the cello from an early age, having been inspired by a recital in Edinburgh. His early musical life included some years in the National Youth Orchestra, after which he decided to embark on a scientific and international business career for 30 years. However, the cello always remained a consistent part of his life during that time, particularly in chamber music. Pilgrimage also became a significant passion: this included playing solo cello works in churches and monasteries along the Camino de Santiago. His musical career was formalised by becoming a student at the RSAMD in Glasgow in his 50's, since which time he has enjoyed a dual career as a cellist and conductor.

DAILY BIBLE READING NOTES from United Christian Broadcasters

U.C.B. produce "Word for Today", a booklet of daily Bible reading notes covering three months of the year at a time. Free copies of these have been put on the tables in both the Knightswood and Anniesland buildings for people to take and use. If there are no copies left and you wish one, please see me at Church and I'll arrange for you to get it!

Christine Hay

The Church Choir

Here we are almost at the end of another session. Since the last magazine article, the Choir has met regularly on Thursdays at 7pm to rehearse the music for the Sunday services.

The music for the services in Lent tends to be quiet and reflective but is then followed by the joyful, exuberant music of Easter.

We are taking a break from the Thursday practices on 23rd May when we meet for a meal at Nostrana Restaurant in Hyndland. We shall then resume Thursday practices in September but until then shall continue with short practices before the morning services.

It has been a pleasure having the Choir of St. David's Church join us on several occasions and a number of members of the congregation have commented that they enjoy listening to the larger choir. Please remember that new members are always welcome in the Choir so if you are interested in joining the Choir please speak with me, Christine Furnish or any Choir member

I now want to thank the Choir for their support and uplifting singing throughout the session.

I hope the sun shines on you all over the summer and that you manage relaxation and replenishment over the summer months.

Christine Furnish





The Friendship Café

I cannot believe that the month of June will soon be here, although the singing birds, colourful flowers and green leaved trees foretell better weather times (hopefully) ahead.

Since I wrote in the last magazine about the Café, we have celebrated Pancake Tuesday with freshly baked pancakes and Valentine's Day both on 13th February and St. Patrick's Day on 12th March. Many thanks to Oakbridge Care Home for organising the decorations in the hall for this event. On 26th March we had a happy Easter celebration where everyone received an Easter card, cake and lolly.

Over the summer months we hope to have a summer coffee morning and possibly memory boxes which may prompt us to remember what life was like when we were young.

I want to thank all our customers for supporting the Café and also our helpers who are very faithful and work away in the kitchen preparing tea, coffee and toast, while others 'front of house' serve the tea, coffee and toast and ensure that our customers are happy. It truly is a combined effort. As summer rapidly approaches I hope you all have an enjoyable time with hopefully lots of warmth and sunshine so that you can relax and replenish your resources.

Christine Furnish

Annie's Place Café

The café continues to welcome a wide range of ages on a Friday afternoon. We had celebrations of a 2nd birthday and a 90th birthday in the last few months. We enjoy a cuppa and a chat and different activities each week. The activities are often led by our café regulars. And include quizzes, crafts, gardening demos and many more. It is great to see everyone getting involved.

We recently welcomed Kevin and Eilidh from the open museum, who brought the Scotland memory box to share with us. The boxes are filled with museum objects and cover a wide range of subjects. Borrowing the boxes allows us to handle the objects (carefully) and explore the history of them. Everyone really enjoyed the session. We have more boxes booked as part of our regular programme.

We are looking forward to welcoming back the Partick Pluckers ukulele group who will be playing on Friday the 21st of June from 1:30pm.

Annie's café will then have a break over the summer to allow our volunteers a much-needed rest. The café will start back on Friday the 30th of August.

You are very welcome to drop in any Friday afternoon between 1pm and 3pm. Hope to see you there.

Louise and the Annie's café team





201st Brownies

The Brownies have had busy session working on the reflect theme, where all the activities are based around how they interact with each other and work as a team. We are now doing the be well theme where all the activities are about looking after themselves.

14 of the Brownies are going on a county residential trip to PGL at the end of May , where we are doing a multi activity weekend. This includes activities such as climbing, cat walk, trails, raft making/ canoeing and zip wires.

We are planning a joint night with the Guides and a visit to Victoria park before we finish for the summer.

Lesley Murray
Brownie Leader





247 Boys Brigade



In the last few weeks the boys have been thinking about the upcoming Olympics and have been busy learning new sports. The boys especially enjoyed table tennis and skipping. We are planning an evening to celebrate the EUR tournament with a one-on-one football tournament with each person representing one country.

We have also just returned from a fabulous weekend away to Dalguise in Perth shire. The weather was so warm and sunny it is the first time we have ever needed to use sunscreen for the boys! Throughout the weekend the boys had fun and learned lots of new skills. We were raft building, climbing, problem solving and zipping down the zip wire! A lot of the activities involved lots of teamwork and using communication skills. The leaders and I are so proud of how well behaved each of the boys were and how they tackled lots of new experiences.... even if they were a bit scary!

Boys Brigade is open to any boy from age 5 . If you know of anyone who would like to come along to learn new skills and have lots of fun, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Gail Grieve
Officer In Charge





Easter worship in Knightswood park



Images of the Bield at
Blackruthven in Perthshire.

