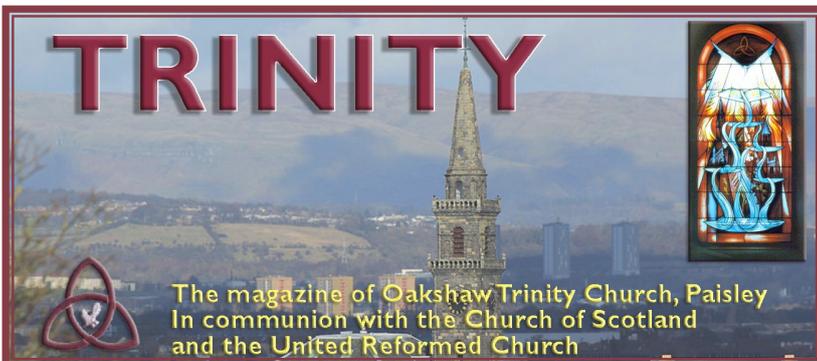




Spring 2018

Church Facebook Page
www.facebook.com/oakshawtrinity
Website: www.oakshawtrinity.org.uk

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TRINITY

The magazine of Oakshaw Trinity Church, Paisley
In communion with the Church of Scotland
and the United Reformed Church

Diary Dates



2018

February

Sun 18 19:00 Fellowship Group
Sun 25 11:00 Youth Service

March

Sat 3 10:00 Friendly Hour Coffee Morning
Sun 4 10.15 Office Bearers' Service
11.00 Sacrament of Holy Communion
12:30 Bread & Soup Lunch
Sun 18 19:00 Fellowship Group
Mon 19 19:30 Eight o'clock Club Fundraiser

Sun 25 11.00 Palm Sunday service
followed by Church Lunch

Mon 26 19.00 Holy Week Service
Tue 27 19.00 Holy Week Service
Wed 28 19.00 Holy Week Service
Thu 29 19.00 Maundy Thursday Service
Fri 30 19.00 Good Friday Service



April

Sun 1 09.00 Early Morning Easter Service.
Breakfast after the service
11.00 Easter Sunday service

May

Sun 6 Monthly Communion after the service

On other Sundays, morning worship is at 11.00

From the Minister

Margaret and I would like to say a big thank you, for all your loving Christmas Cards and even some presents.

The beginning of this New Year has been extremely busy, and sadly, we have lost quite a number of our friends and members since our last edition of Trinity. Yet in our remembrance of them, we realise just how blessed we have been by knowing and worshipping with them, and in love we release them into the care of the Lord who said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." (Hebrews 13:5).

We also began the year with great joy when we celebrated David Scott's Valedictory Service here at Oakshaw Trinity on Wednesday 24th January. This was a wonderful culmination of David's four year study to become a Minister of Word and Sacrament. It was a pleasure to share in this service with along with the Scottish College of the U.R.C. and for us to wish every blessing to David, Nova, Fraser and Beth, and also to their wider family. "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:35).

2018 is the Year of Young People and the Mission and Discipleship Council are seeking to support and enable congregations to get involved with this national initiative as we have done at our last Family Service. By maintaining this, we hope to foster a renewed focus on, and celebration of, children and young people in our Church and community.

For the rest of us, we will continue to worship and work together for the glory of God. With Easter being early this year, Lent begins on the 14th February, which is also Valentine's Day. In the 5th century, church leaders were keen to mark the lead-up to Easter with a focussed period of devotion. So, traditionally Lent has been set as lasting for forty days, in commemoration of the forty days Jesus spent fasting in the desert, according to the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, before beginning his public ministry, during which he endured temptation by Satan.

May God's blessing be with you,

Gordon (Rev. Gordon B. Armstrong)



It has been a busy week. On Wednesday night (24th January) Oakshaw Trinity hosted my Valedictory Service from the Scottish United Reformed and Congregational College. As the College is one of three Resource Centres for Learning in the URC I have been under its supervision during my time at the University of Glasgow and on placements as well as attending College modules. This phase of my training for ministry of word and sacrament has now come to an end so the Valedictory Service effectively hands the ordinand back to the URC ready for ordination and appointment to a pastorate. I am very grateful to everyone that helped with the service and appreciated the time so many people gave up to come along and show their support.

Having gone through the URC process for ministry deployment I "Preached with a View" on Sunday 28th January in Saughtonhall URC,

Edinburgh. This was for the joint pastorate of Duke Street and Saughtonhall URCs with additional responsibilities in the Synod's East Link. Following the service there was a unanimous vote that a Call should be issued. This has been accepted subject to concurrence of by the Synod Pastoral Committee with an Ordination and Induction planned for Saturday 3rd March in Edinburgh.

So with an answer to the "where will you end up question?"; I can now begin the next stage as I look forward to many changes that will include living and working through in Edinburgh as minister of two very active congregations.

Blessings,
David M Scott BSc, BD(Min)



Church Roll

Baptisms:

26/11/17 Hellen Andrew
Sarah Bissett Muir
Makaila Alanan Andrews
Danya Viviana Andrews
Tiana Samare Andrews



Deaths:

10/11/17 Tom Gilmour
19/11/17 Sheila Williamson
08/12/17 David McEwan
09/12/17 Anna Barrett
22/12/17 Alex Law
01/01/18 Margaret Carson
03/01/18 Ruth Cuthbertson
04/01/18 Margaret (Daisy) Toner
06/01/18 May Mure



From Rev. George Lind

Pastoral Assistant:

Hello. I'm George. Your Minister Gordon and I have been friends for over 25 years. Since October last, I've been your part-time Pastoral Assistant (2 days mid-week), visiting Care Homes, Hospitals and the house-bound. I'm based at the Wynd Centre where a very happy atmosphere exists (I often refer to it as the "Wind-up" Centre). I retired last May as Minister of Stewarton: St. Columba's and am currently Moderator of the Presbytery of Irvine and Kilmarnock. My wife, Rae, and I now live in Newmilns where we're now happily settled, making new friends and developing new hobbies. I look forward to making many new friends here in Oakshaw Trinity Church too.



Helen McEwan and family wish to thank all friends in Oakshaw Trinity Church for the cards, flowers and expressions of sympathy they have received following their sad loss. These were very much appreciated.

Mary Law and family wish to thank all of the friends in Oakshaw Trinity Church for their kindness and cards at the sad time of Alex's death.

Thank You



Senga and John McKenzie want to thank everyone for all the cards and messages they received for a speedy recovery after John's recent surgery

Education, Mission, EcoCongregation Committee - Jim McDougall (E.M.E.C.)

Spotlight on Mission: The Challenge of Paisley 2021

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

— Proverbs 31:8-9 (New International Version)

As we know, the recent bid by Paisley to be City of Culture 2021 was not successful, but the response of the Bid Team typifies the positive and generous attitude of this town, and of its capacity to develop. "Our bid for UK City of Culture 2021 has been an exciting journey - and this will continue. It's seen the town rediscover its sense of pride and transform Paisley's reputation. Buddies believe in their town again and that self-confidence is bringing in more people to Paisley. Our journey to regenerate the town and Renfrewshire using culture and heritage will continue." Inspiring words, and surely important lessons for our church in meeting the challenge of the next few years. In this EMEC wants to play its part with respect to mission, education and the environment. And there is much to do. There is certainly pride in Paisley but there are pockets of great poverty as demonstrated by the growing demand for the Food Bank. Of 76,000 people, approximately 25% are income deprived. Some 31,450 people and 30% of children in the town are living in communities identified as being in multiple deprivation; the 2016 Scottish Indicators of Multiple Deprivation put Ferguslie Park as the most deprived area in Scotland. Poor housing, drug abuse, litter, graffiti and low-level crime add up to picture that is every bit as concerning as that facing the communities in Africa that regularly receive our help through Practical Action. That is why we feel it is part of our mission to support organisations that aim to lift people out of a cycle of helplessness or help youngsters get a good start in life. Recently, EMEC have disbursed Mission Fund to Bruce Court and the Ferguslie Pre-Five Centre. Bruce Court, part of the Blue Triangle Housing charity "works with people who are the farthest away from the job market" and who other services reject or cannot work with because they have very challenging behaviour. Such work requires unique skill, patience and faith in human nature from the unsung heroes who make up the staff of Bruce Court; as one young person wrote, "my key worker is amazing I do not know what I would have done without her; she's easy to talk to and build a relationship with." Meanwhile, situated in the heart of Ferguslie, the Pre-Five Centre provide young children with a rich and nurturing environment that supports how they develop and learn. They want children to feel secure as they explore and investigate the play spaces both indoors and out. They use an approach called "Five to Thrive" based on five key areas: respond, cuddle, relax, play and talk and these focus on what children need from the adult around them. Early years education is vital and is one way of meeting the challenge of deprivation by giving young people security and a chance to flourish.

We shall continue supporting Bruce Court, the Pre-Five Centre and the Renfrewshire Food Bank as part of our Christian witness to Paisley and very much in the spirit of Paisley 2021.

If you have any suggestions for other worthy organisations to be considered in the future, please speak to Jim McDougall, EMEC Chair.

Date for your diary

Eco-Congregation Scotland Annual Gathering 2018 - Saturday 28th April, 10:00am - 3:15pm - Augustine United Church, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EL



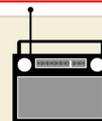
Premier Christian Radio

A church member has told us about a UK Christian Radio station that he enjoys listening to and thought might be of interest to others.

The station is 'Premier Christian Radio' and is available as a DAB digital station, on Freeview 725 and also on line at www.premierchristianradio.com. It is non-denominational and is mainly funded by advertisers, listeners and donations but you do not need to pay anything or register to use the service.

Their website describes it as follows: *Premier started as a London-based radio station and now, 20 years later, is a flourishing multi-media organisation across radio, magazines and interactive websites with on-demand video and audio.*

Premier exists to enable people to put their Faith at the heart of daily life and bring Christ to their communities. We support people on their faith journey and help them put their faith into action by providing spiritual nourishment and resources.



Finance Report - Bob Copleton (Acting Treasurer)

The financial results for 2017 are now prepared, subject to the examination by the External Examiner. The result is a deficit of £6494 before taking into account Legacies received in the year of £13,500 and an increase in value of our two investments of £5979. This means an increase in the Church's General Fund of £12,985. Looking at the detail, the various sources of income – Freewill Offerings, Plate Collections, Gift Aid Tax Rebate, Donations, Fund Raising, Investment Income and Hall Lets totalled £170,076 against a Budget Figure of £169,000 which had included Fund Raising of £5,500 but in reality was only £1300. Well done to all contributors. Please keep up the good work and contribute as much as you can. Costs are not going down, as you know.

On the Expenditure, the cost of Ministry and Wider Work was £84,291; Local Staffing Costs £48,029; and the Property and other Local Costs £44,251 – All close to the Budget figures.

The Church Balance Sheet shows a stable financial position.

Thank you all for your continuing support and understanding.

Presbytery Elder - Jessie Cross

I have the pleasure of continuing to represent Oakshaw Trinity at Greenock and Paisley Presbytery.

In this 'Year of Young People' there are resources available on the Church of Scotland website, www.churchofscotland.org.uk, for work with Children, Youths and Young Adults and this is commended by Presbytery.

At the other end of the scale the Rev Robert Craig has been appointed Veterans' Champion for the Presbytery.

All age ranges are catered for by the Mission and Discipleship Committee which deals with areas intended to aid the development of congregations, covering all aspects of Christian education. It also deals with the Church's outreach in various forms both locally and nationally, dealing with local outreach initiatives and keeping the Presbytery informed of national initiatives which may be relevant.

Full details of this and other committees can be found at www.presbofgreenockandpaisley.org

Church of Scotland Nominations Committee - John Stewart

My first "working" meeting took place in January. One hundred and twenty applications arrived in my Christmas post for the vacancies arising on the twenty six committees! The Nominations Committee, comprising of twenty seven Ministers and Elders from all over Scotland, interviewed all Committee Convenors who proposed names for their Committee from the applications received. The Nominations Committee were attempting to (a) ensure due process had been carried out when nominating new Convenors of Committees and (b) each Committee would have members which reflected a geographical spread and a balanced age and gender composition.

All vacancies were filled and it was encouraging to have so many applications from Church people willing to volunteer their services for the work of the Church, and most, if not all, will be placed on a committee they applied for or one selected for the skills that they have to offer.

The wide range of activities the Church undertakes and the enthusiasm each Committee has for its area of responsibility is impressive.

It would be good to see more applications from Church members who are not Elders or Ministers as they have many skills to offer.

Consider what skills you can offer and let me know!

At our next meeting in August we will be introduced to the new members of the Nomination Committee approved by the General Assembly in May.

Wynd Worship - John Stewart

This continues in the Apse room on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9.45 and lasts for 15 minutes. It is taken by various members of the congregation, and is supported by the Ministerial Team. Come along and join us and you can have a tea/coffee in the tea bar before starting your shopping. Also, if you would like to join the worship team and can help one morning in a month, that would be much appreciated. (no age restrictions,) Please pass your name to me or contact Catriona in the Church Office. Material is available to assist in preparation.

Oakshaw Trinity Friendly Hour - 60th Anniversary Celebrations **Afternoon Tea - Tuesday 7th November 2017**



Choir - Catriona Muirhead

From September to the beginning of December we were preparing Anthems for Sunday Services and also for our Lessons and Carol Service in December, we do hope you all enjoyed these. As always we like to finish the year with Supper and Sing-a-long of Christmas Songs this always proves enjoyable. Practices have now resumed so why not come along - a warm invitation is extended to any member of the congregation who likes to sing. We meet in the church on Thursday evenings at 8.00 p.m.



Handbells Team - Elaine Duncan

2018 has now been well and truly "rung in" and the handbell team are keen to get started on a variety of music both old and new to extend our repertoire. In early March we will be performing in the 2nd annual festival of OKFest for Kilmalcolm Old Kirk. We also hope to perform in a joint concert with the church choir in May. Both of these involve a lot of hard work but there is always a welcome "cuppa" during the evening as a reward for our efforts! We are always keen to welcome interested individuals who would like to try handbell ringing and we have recently started a Beginners Class. Please speak to Elaine if you would like to know more about this new venture.

Trinity Theatre Group - Jean Bett

I am delighted to report that the Club's performance of, 'Sleeping Beauty' at Paisley Arts Centre was a great success. Two of the four performances were sold out and there were very good audiences at the other two. As a result we have made enough money to ensure our 2018 show can go ahead as well as allowing us to make a donation to the church. We are grateful to our loyal supporters from Oakshaw and especially the sixty plus Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from the church who were a delightful and enthusiastic audience. Their leaders are to be praised for their charges' exemplary behaviour. Trinity Theatre Group will be taking a small part in the family service on 25th February and a plan to put on a performance using as many members of the congregation and organisations as possible is still in the pipeline.

Oberammergau 2020

If you are interested in joining a trip to Oberammergau to see the Passion Play in July 2020 could you please contact the Church Office to express an interest?



Eight o'clock Club - Sheena Miller (Secretary)

At our Christmas dinner in December we raised £105 for CHAS in donations in lieu of a secret Santa.

Thanks to those who bought the 2017 Quiz sheets. The sum of £300 was raised. The answers are available on the church Facebook page. The winners were Liz Wilson, Esther MacLure, Sam Hay, Jan Thornton and Isabel McIntosh.

Meetings for the remainder of this session are :

- Mon 26th February Fiona Ferry - Trading Standards



Monday 19th March at 7:30 pm
Musical Concert.

Price £7
(inc refreshments)

In aid of



We hope that as many of you as possible will support this event in the church hall. Tickets are available from members.

- Mon 30th April - AGM
- Mon 4th June - Outing

Anyone who wishes to join in any of the above which, apart from the fundraising concert, are held in the Lang hall at 8 p.m. would be made most welcome.

Trinity Lunch Club - Sheena Miller

Our remaining meetings for this session are

- Wed 14th March: Age Scotland
- Wed 18th April: Outing

We normally meet in the Main Hall of the Wynd Centre from 12.30pm to 2pm and start with a light lunch.

These meetings are open to everyone. If you are interested in attending any of these, please ensure that your name is on the sheet in the vestibule of the church which is available on the two Sundays prior to the meeting. This is necessary for catering purposes.

Tea & Crafts - Margaret Armstrong

Welcome back and welcome to our monthly Monday evening meetings. You don't even need to be crafty to join us as a big part of what we do is fellowship and friendship by working, creating and just being together. As always, everyone is made welcome in our group and you are always given a cup of tea or coffee.



Men's Club - John Hamilton

We are pleased to report that our Men's Club is going strong in the 2017/18 session and can further report that our membership is actually up on previous years! However we always have room for new members so feel free to join us all any Friday evening in the forthcoming months.

We were sorry that the Boys' Brigade did not manage up on Friday the 19th January due to the adverse weather but we are hopeful that we may gather in fellowship at a future date.

As always, we extend our greetings to the church and we warmly welcome anyone who may visit during our current session which ends the last Friday evening in April

The Friendly Hour Coffee Morning

Saturday 3rd March 2018

from 10am to 12 noon

in the large church hall

Bakery stall and an unwanted gifts stall

Tickets £2 on sale from 11th February

Girls' Brigade (2nd Paisley) - Karen Peacock

The last few months have been busy!

The Explorers enjoyed afternoon tea with Olaf, and Beauty and the Beast at the Bowfield Hotel in October and in November some girls and parents joined other Youth

Organisations in Messy Church. At the Divisional Competition in November one team from Explorer Section, one team from Brigader Section and two teams from Junior Section took part. For the first time we achieved two trophies – the Explorer Shield jointly with 4th Johnstone (mixed team) and the Junior Shield. Well done to all the girls who took part.

We had our annual fundraising coffee evening in November raising over £600, the most ever. A big thank you to everyone who supported us. This money was put towards the Pantomime trip - Snow White at the Arts Centre. We had a fun Marching and Games evening to assist in the family fundraising efforts of one of our Explorer girls who has a younger brother, Corey, with a rare condition for which he requires specialist equipment. Corey came along and loved all the attention from the girls. Corey's family were delighted that we raised £150 from this evening. Our annual Christmas Party finished the session..

Since our return in January we have been busy with badge work; the Juniors learning all about The Lost Sheep; Brigaders are working on their photography and Explorers are working through their animal theme. On Burns night all sections celebrated with shortbread and Irn Bru.



Our next fundraising evening will be a Fun Prize Bingo night on Thursday 22nd March,



Rainbows and Brownies Elizabeth Halliday

The Rainbows and Brownies have enjoyed a winter session of crafts, parties and trips. In November we attended Trinity Theatre Group's performance of 'Sleeping Beauty' and had a great night at 'Messy Church'. In December we were covered in sparkles with Christmas crafts and had a great Christmas party. The girls were delighted Santa managed a special visit as they had all been very good this year! The New Year brought more sparkly crafts and a Scottish night where the girls experienced traditional Scottish food and music and made paper thistles and their own Scottish mascot 'Clyde' (official mascot of the 2014 Commonwealth Games). With a very large unit of fifty seven girls we have now separated the Rainbows and Brownies and would warmly welcome volunteers. If you would like to help on a Friday night 6.30pm – 8pm during school term time please speak to Fiona Walker (guider in charge), myself or leave your contact details with Catriona in the Wynd Office and someone will be in touch. As Ronald Reagan once said, "We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone". With our new girls making their promise and badge work planned we would love you to join our energetic girl guiding team.



Dates for your diary

Sunday 25th February – Youth Thinking Day Service & Cinema Trip (Please wear uniform if possible)
Fridays 30th March, 6th April, 13th April – Holiday (School Easter Holiday)



Guides (11th Paisley) - Linda Kelly

Some great news about four of our senior guides who, throughout 2017, have been working extremely hard towards their Baden Powell Challenge Award - the highest award within the Girl Guide association. This culminated with the Baden Powell adventure – an overnight residential challenge at South Newton involving guides from around the Renfrewshire area. After this, and submitting their final presentations to the District Commissioner, we are very proud to announce that all four girls have achieved their Baden Powell Award. Many congratulations to Kirsty Gillies, Emily Murdoch, Beth Scott and Nicola Stewart. The guides have been very busy during the winter session.

Our "Under the Sea" themed Guide Camp at Gartocharn in November was a great success. We were blessed with good weather and everyone enjoyed the visit to the Sea Life Centre watching the otters being fed and some brave girls sticking their hands in rock pools containing a variety of sea creatures. We also had a quick visit to the Maid of the Loch. Throughout the weekend the girls also took part in many other crafts and activities, both indoor and outdoor. We would like to thank Georgette Burt and Joyce High who kindly "volunteered" to help out over the weekend – no arm twisting involved!

On St Andrews Night, we celebrated in style with everyone wearing something tartan. They made shortbread, took part in

Scottish themed crafts and enjoyed a lively Scottish dance. Our church elders Liz McPherson and Lynn Ferguson visited in early December and gave the girls a Christmas themed activity to do, including making, some lovely Christmas cards. We went to Gravity Trampolining at Soar in Braehead for our Christmas night out going on all the trampolines, bouncy basketball area, climbing wall and assault course – everyone had a really good time. The evening was finished off very nicely with "star slushes" in the café. The New Year has seen the girls continue to learn new crafts. We've just celebrated Burns night where each guide was given the task of making a Burns Cottage from scratch. For Thinking Day the guides will be focussing on guides around the world. They will also be finishing off some of their badge work and continuing with their "Go For It" challenges.



Sunday School - Janice McCallum

By the time you read this Christmas will be just a memory; and from all the lovely comments that we received, a memory that you won't forget. You can see by the pictures the children and young people enjoyed themselves at the Nativity and the Christmas party. The seniors were to have a Pizza and DVD day on 21st. January but due to the snow we had to postpone it till the following week; but a good time was had by all.

We have had our Staff meeting and put together a full calendar for the months ahead. We are using Scripture Union material which is bright and colourful and we can choose a variety of things from the teachers' manuals to do with the children's lessons. We will also have our Easter fun and craft day; our fundraiser for Sports relief, Mother's day and Father's day so a really busy time. We have also asked the children for their input and they have come up with a few suggestions and ideas that we will implement during this session. Our ECO garden needs some TLC, so if you have any spare pots or shrubs you are putting out, let us recycle them for you. It needs a bit of work but I'm sure it will be lovely in the months to come.

The Sunday School staff and I remain committed to helping with the children's early Christian education and love to see the children each week. Your children are always welcome at Sunday School and are most important to us.



Boys' Brigade (14th Paisley) - Craig McFie

The Boys' Brigade started back on 5th January following the Christmas break. Sadly one of our leaders, Yvette Kelly, has had to leave us due to College/Work commitments, however we would like to thank Yvette for all her help and wish her well in her studies in Nursing.



Before the Christmas Break, the boys enjoyed their annual Fireworks display and Christmas Party, as well as the "Messy Church" organised by the Youth Committee - well done to all the organisers! We also took delivery of some new gym equipment as our previous items were all past their best.

We are still keen on new members joining us, including any adults who wish to volunteer as helpers. Anyone looking for more information can contact Craig McFie or any of the other leaders. For those who use Facebook or Twitter, you can follow us at @14thPaisleyBB where we plan to share more news and events that are happening within the company.



Craig McFie

BB14thPaisley@hotmail.co.uk

Tots and Toddlers - Janice McCallum

Tots and Toddlers runs during the Church service. There is a baby changing area and also a wide variety of toys. The staff will be only too happy to look after your child while you are in Church. Your children will be made most welcome.

Seniors' Holiday - Sandra and Gordon Hamilton

As some of you maybe already aware, we are off to The Horizon Hotel, Ayr from 12th to 19th May. What can be more appropriate than writing this article, on 25th January!

During our stay, we will be undertaking three excursions, to Portpatrick, Castle Douglas, and Troon.

It is hoped we will be just as happy here, as we have been for the past twenty three years, at The Esplanade Hotel in Dunoon.



STEPPING FORWARD THROUGH THE YEAR WITH JESUS

Whenever we have doubts, may we remember to whom we can always turn.

Eternal loving God, in our daily lives help us to resist the temptation of taking the easy option, of going with the flow.

Help us not just to say what people want to hear, or conform to the norm.

Jesus, our guide, stands up and stands out for what is good, for your will.

May we follow his footsteps and his example. Amen.

(from Douglas Scott, presbytery prayer coordinator)

Future Magazine Dates

Edition	Articles due by	Magazine available
Summer	29/04/18	13/05/18
Autumn	29/07/18	12/08/18

Church Directory

Minister	Rev, Gordon Armstrong BD FIAB BRC Cert. CS	0141 887 4647 Press 3
Session Clark	Robert B. Copleton	Church Office
Acting Treasurer	Robert B. Copleton	Church Office
Fabric Convenor		
Church Office	Catriona Muirhead	0141 887 4647 Press 3