

Summer 2018

TRINITY

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

Diary Dates



2018

May

- Thu 17 Girls' Brigade Display
Fri 18 Boys' Brigade Display
Sat 19 Family Outing - Edinburgh Zoo
Sun 20 11.00 Family Service

June

- Sun 3 10.15 Office Bearers' Service
11.00 Sacrament of Holy Communion
15:30 Afternoon Communion
Mon 4 19.00 Eight o'clock Club Outing
Sun 24 11.00 Morning Worship
Sunday School Promotion

July

- Sun 1 11.00 Morning Worship
Monthly Communion after the service

August

- Sun 5 11.00 Morning Worship
Monthly Communion after the service
Sun 19 11.00 Morning Worship
Sunday School Resumes

On other Sundays, morning worship is at 11.00



From the Minister

Dear friends in Christ,

As always, I am so delighted to write to you again. Please know that you are loved by the Lord and that he has a wonderful plan for you. I would like to begin by asking you to pray for each other and also for those whose images and faces we have seen in the news. As God sent Jesus to cross your paths and share the gospel with you, you should pray that He will also save them.

Exodus 12:3 (NIV) "Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household."

When God told the community of Israel to prepare the Passover meal, He said that a lamb was for each household. This indicates that God wants your household to be saved. **Acts 16:31 (NIV)** They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."

As I write, I have just received news of the death of one of our members and former Pastoral Assistants, the Rev. Janet MacMahon. I know that many of you had been wondering where she was and I am now at liberty to tell you that she had been fighting a terminal illness. Janet and I go back many years to the time of my first charge at Shieldhall and Drumoyne Church. Janet was the first whole-time Chaplain at the Southern General Hospital when I was one of her part-time crew. We got to know each other very well and as you will no doubt imagine, we carried out our duties with the greatest of respect and devotion... and yes, with our combined senses of humour. I know that I have lost a great friend and support, yet how much more of a loss will her passing be to Mike, Ken, Carrie and their families. Yet, in our faith, if we believe in the truths of Exodus, Acts and indeed many other passages of scripture, this is not, nor could it be, the end but rather a glorious new beginning.

Let us continue to build His churches and spread the knowledge of the glory of the Lord all over the world and may God bless us as we do so ,

Gordon (Rev. Gordon B. Armstrong)



Wynd Centre

- Rev. Gordon Armstrong

This has been an interesting time for the Wynd Centre and as you will already know, it has been a time of change.

In November last year, we said farewell to Graeme McGowan as Chairman after many years of sterling service. Then as we moved into 2018, Ian Young decided that it was time for him to move on as our manager. I know that in writing, I could not possibly find enough words to thank Graeme and Ian, other than to say that they have both left a fine legacy that can, and must be, continued.

During this time of vacancy and change, I have stepped in as Interim Chairman and the other

members of the Board are working diligently and collectively to ensure that we can continue and grow in our witness and service to the community

To this end, can I ask for your continued help and support of the Wynd Centre. This comes with many thanks to our team of volunteers and indeed to John Stewart for his endless quest to find external funding for the work we do.

The Coffee Shop is now well established in the main centre, although we do need to ask for more volunteers to help. Please do give some thought to joining us, if only for a couple of hours. If you would like any more information or would like to help; please phone either Catriona or Georgette at the office (0141 887 4647).

Finally, after what has seemed a long time in coming, the work has now been completed in the old café area by the Highland Theological College and we welcome them into their new home.



Church Roll

Baptisms:

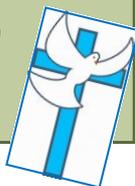
08/04/18 Jack Kenneth Halliday



Deaths:

11/02/18 Mrs. Marion Chittick

28/04/18 Rev. Janet MacMahon



Flower Fund - Seonaid Prentice

I thank sincerely everyone who has helped me in every way during the year. The flower arrangements have been lovely. We couldn't do this without your donations to the Flower Fund, anonymously or otherwise.

These flowers are distributed to those members who are ill, bereaved, in Care Homes and who have special anniversaries etc.



Hazel McCowan wishes to thank everyone for the cards, flowers and visits after her fall in November

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

"If I had sneezed..."

In 1958, a charismatic young black preacher was stabbed in Harlem. The knife nearly penetrated his aorta, and indeed the tip rested against the vessel. One false move and the tip would have pressed home, leading to rapid death. Rushed to hospital, he was operated on, and survived. Recounting the story to the New York Times, the young preacher explained that, so close was the blade, "I would have died if I had sneezed."



The preacher received many letters and telegrams wishing him well for his recovery, but none more so than from a schoolgirl who wrote, "I am a ninth-grade student. While it should not matter, I would like to mention that I am a white girl. I read in the paper of your misfortune, and of your suffering. And I read that if you had sneezed, you would have died. And I'm simply writing you to say that I'm so happy that you didn't sneeze."

The preacher was Martin Luther King and he retold that story in his final speech in Memphis, on the eve of his assassination on April 3rd 1968, fifty years ago. In that speech, he gave example after example of what he would not have been able to do for civil rights "if he had sneezed".

"I want to say tonight that I am happy that I didn't sneeze. Because if I had sneezed, I wouldn't have been around in 1962, when Negroes in Albany, Georgia, decided to straighten their backs up. And whenever men and women straighten their backs up, they are going somewhere, because a man can't ride your back unless it is bent. If I had sneezed, I wouldn't have been here in 1963, when the black people of Birmingham, Alabama, aroused the conscience of this nation, and brought into being the Civil Rights Bill. If I had sneezed, I wouldn't have had a chance later that year, in August, to try to tell America about a dream that I had had."

King, almost overcome with emotion, and fully aware that his life was under constant threat, concluded his speech, his last one, with these famous words:

"We've got some difficult days ahead. But it doesn't matter with me now. Because I've been to the mountaintop. And I don't mind. Like anybody, I would like to live a long life... But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the promised land. And I'm happy, tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord."

You need to listen to it, not just read it, to get the full effect of one of the finest preachers and speakers ever, with his mesmerising voice and powerful oratory. He knew he was a marked man, but his unshakeable faith and passion drove him on to speak up for the oppressed. He faced up to danger and difficulty, he showed courage. And the message of that near fatal knife attack is clear - so often the direction we take hangs by a thread, a chance encounter for good or ill, a life changing moment. How would the course of American civil rights have changed had Dr King died that night in Harlem in 1958? What inspiration would have been lost? What things would not have happened, what lives would not have been changed, if he had sneezed?

Prayer

Eternal God, out of whose mind came this great cosmic universe, we bless You. Help us to seek that which is high, noble and good. Help us in the moment of difficult decision. Help us to work with renewed vigour for a warless world, a better distribution of wealth, and a brother/sisterhood that transcends race or colour. Amen.

(Martin Luther King)

Rev. David Scott BSc, BD

On the 22nd April, thirty members of the congregation attended the Ordination and Induction of David to the Joint Pastorate of Duke Street and Saughtonhall URC Churches in Edinburgh. He will also have responsibilities in the East Link Pastoral Group of the Church.

Due to the large numbers attending, the service was held in Murrayfield Parish Church of Scotland and the excellent hospitality afterwards was provided in Saughtonhall Church.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Doug Gray, Principal Trinity College, University of Glasgow and David's wife Nova and his children Beth and Fraser all took part in the service as did the Rev. Ian Currie, former Minister of Oakshaw Trinity Church.

You are asked to keep David and his family in your prayers as he starts out in the continuing journey of his Christian witness.



Finance and Administration

- Bob Copleton (Session Clerk and Acting Treasurer)

The Management Accounts for the first quarter to 31st March, 2018 show a surplus of £1435. The detailed income and expenditure are as expected. Thanks to all for your continued support. Please always review your givings so that the increase in costs can be covered.

It is proposed to renew the pew cushions in the church, but not the balcony, and a Gift Campaign is being organised to be launched on Sunday 3rd June, 2018 to raise the amount estimated at £14,100. A letter of explanation plus a Gift Envelope will be delivered to you by your elder. Please give serious consideration to this appeal and give generously.

If you have questions which the elder is unable to answer, just contact me and I shall do my best to get you an answer.

Miss Isabel Pearson was appointed Assistant Treasurer at the February Kirk Session Meeting. Isabel is now absorbing all the many facets that make up the Treasurer of Oakshaw Trinity Church's job and soon she will take on the task on her own.

Property Committee - Sandra Willson

We are still finding our feet as a new committee and are keeping on top of the repairs as they are notified. The 'notification of repair cards' are working well. We are talking to a company to landscape the front of the church and the access into the halls and also going to appoint an external company to clean the church and halls to bring them up to a good standard to allow the caretaker to keep it at that level.

Choir - Catriona Muirhead

It is amazing how time passes; we in the choir cannot believe we are nearly at the end of our weekly practices which finish in May before some of our members go on a well earned holiday to Ayr.

Our Annual Dinner is again this year at Canal Station; this is always a lovely friendly evening full of chat, laughs and jokes but most of all just enjoying each other's company over a lovely meal, and dare I say, we are usually the last to leave the venue! We also take this time to convey our thanks to our Director of Music, David who always welcomes us every Thursday evening (no matter what the weather is like) and keeps us going not only with the music but with his hilarious sense of humour. I can assure you we all go home feeling uplifted, so why not come along and join our happy band; you will be made most welcome. At the start of our new session we will be looking at music for the proposed concert in October in which we have been asked to participate along with our Handbells Ringers. I am sure this will be enjoyed by all. Look out for more details which will be coming soon.

Trinity Theatre Group - Jean Bett



As a group, we enjoyed taking part in the Family Service on February 25th and welcomed enquiries about the Dramatic Club from a number of people.

Once again we have not been able to get the Disney Performing Rights for, 'Beauty and the Beast', which is only available for schools in their own premises for the foreseeable future! I am investigating another source but this is still a, 'work in progress'. No matter what we finally decide to do, Trinity Theatre Group will start again on Wednesday 22nd of August at 7.30pm 2018, with show dates of 5th to 10th November at Paisley Arts Centre. Due to family concerns I have been unable to pursue the idea of a production involving as many of the congregation and church groups as possible but hope to get something organised soon. Watch this space!

Social Events Committee - Lorna Gibson

The Palm Sunday Lunch on Sunday 25th March at Paisley Golf Club was a great success; we had a lovely meal complemented by great views of Paisley.



The Social Events committee now has the use of one of the notice boards in the church hall which will be used to notify future events. There will also be a Suggestions Box which you can utilise for ideas for future social events.

Dates for your diaries

Nearer the time further details will be given both in Oracle and on our new notice board.

- Fri 1st June - Fish Supper & Quiz night
- Sat July TBC - Sunday Afternoon Cycle to Lochwinnoch
- Sat 11th Aug - Trip to Edinburgh Military Tattoo
- Sat 25th Aug - Auction
- Sat 29th Sept - Day Trip outing to St. Andrews
- Sat 6th Oct - Hand bell & Choir Concert
- Sat 24th Nov - Christmas Fayre

Christmas Fayre

We will have a stall at the Christmas Fayre selling "Holiday Gifts" and are looking for donations of small gifts you have brought back from your holidays. Whilst on future holidays, please keep your eyes open for any small gifts that you may like to donate which either tell a story or hold a memory!

Oakshaw Explorers - Sheena Miller

Our outings for 2018 are listed below. Details will be published in Oracle two weeks before each outing. Please contact Jessie Cross or Sheena Miller for more information. All welcome.



Saturdays - normally leaving church car park at 9 a.m.

- May 5th - Rosslyn Chapel
- June 2nd - Dumfries House
- July 7th - New Lanark
- August 4th - Arran - meet on boat
- Sept 22nd - Pitlochry Theatre Weekend.

Sundays - normally leave the church car park at 1 p.m.

- May 27th - Glasgow Botanic Gardens
- June 17th - Muirshiel Country Park
- July 22nd - Skelmorlie Secret Bunker
- August 19th - House for an Art Lover, Bellahouston Park
- Sept 9th - To be decided

Friendly Hour - Isabel Gray

In the Year of Youth

A key objective in the Friendly Hour programme is keeping members up to date regarding the many activities in the community, including local schools and nurseries. We value all ages in the community from very young to very old and developing connections between them can have wonderful benefits for both generations.

During a visit from Ferguslie Park Community Nursery we enjoyed hearing familiar songs, as well as being taught how to be Eco Friendly to music!! When Mossvale Primary School came at Christmas everyone had the opportunity to sing a selection of well known carols. Recently the Senior Choir from Castlehead High School delighted us with a beautiful selection of modern songs including three African songs – all sung at the same time in three parts!! The biggest surprise was being asked to join in – it was fun and everyone enjoyed the experience.



Some members of the Friendly Hour are grandparents, but others have no family able to visit them, so children have a special place in the life of the Friendly Hour - a generational experience for everyone.

Trinity Lunch Club - Sheena Miller

Over the summer we will be making up the programme for the next session and look forward to welcoming everyone to the new session which starts in September.



Eight o'clock Club - Sheena Miller

On Monday 19th March we held our fundraising concert. This raised £700 for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Family Support Trust. We thank everyone who supported this event.



The session will end with our outing on 4th June which this year is to Ingliston Country Club.

The committee is starting work on the programme for the next session which starts on the last Monday of September.

Tea & Crafts - Margaret Armstrong

This year we have met on the second Monday evening monthly and within our group we have had a friendly and creative year making many things from blankets for those setting up new homes to Christmas gifts, decorations and cards. Once again, we have decided to continue through the summer months – really because we enjoy our tea, coffee and chat! So if you find yourself at a loose end, please do come along and join us as you will always be made welcome.



THE CONSOLATION PRIZE - John Stewart

Not second place in the London marathon, but the name of the latest publication from local CLOCHODERICK press. It is the name of the first novel of four chronicles by Fiona Lindsay. Fiona is a member of our congregation and daughter of church elder Margaret Macmillan. She is an active member of Johnstone Writers' Group and the Romantic Novelists Association. The story is based on the activities of the fictional Scottish village of Kirklochy and the evolving life of Heather MacAndrew. Fiona receives no profit from the sale of the book (£8.99) as all profits go directly to supporting local poets and authors. It is anticipated there will be a book signing occasion to give members of the congregation the opportunity to buy one which is excellent reading for the summer holidays.

Girls' Brigade (2nd Paisley) - Karen Peacock

2nd Paisley Girls' Brigade are now into our 10th year. In 2008 we waited to see how many (if any) girls would turn up on the first night. We started with ten and are preparing for our display this year with forty five girls. This year the Girls' Brigade is 125 years old so we are all celebrating!

March had its ups and downs. Our Fundraising Prize Bingo raised over £300; thanks to all supporters. The annual Superleague Competition had to be cancelled due to snow.

April saw better weather for Camp. The Junior and Brigader sections joined others at Lapwing Lodge for various fun activities. The theme used was Celebration. We also had our first GB125 celebrations joining over 800 other girls for a Mad Hatter's Tea Party in a sunny Kelburne Country Park.

The Duke of Edinburgh girls have been busy. Congratulations to Michelle and Stephanie who completed their Bronze award and Amy who has completed her Silver award.

Michelle, Stephanie and two parents, Helen and Alison, are starting their Leadership journey by attending an Induction training day on 29th April.

You are very welcome to attend our display on Thursday 17th May at 7pm in The Wynd Centre.

We will be joining the Youth Organisations' trip to Edinburgh Zoo on 19th May before our summer break.



Guides (11th Paisley) - Linda Kelly

The Youth Service in February was particularly special as Gordon Armstrong and David Scott presented Baden Powell Awards to Kirsty Gillies, Emily Murdoch, Beth Scott and Nicola Stewart. Congratulations to these girls.



At our Thinking Day Service our Guides were presented with their World Badge after activities on the meaning of the day.

Rainbows and Brownies Elizabeth Halliday

Some of you may have found a lovely surprise in the church this Easter. The Rainbows and Brownies were thrilled to go on our best Easter Egg Hunt yet. We heard some lovely stories of people finding a treat that was still hiding within the church pews. We hope you enjoyed them as much as the girls!



Our badge work included 'The Global Goals for Sustainable Development' challenge badges which had us participating in fun activities like carrying a cup full of water over an assault course to emphasise that

safe drinking water is precious and not always available and also fishing with magnets to demonstrate the implications of over fishing. The

UN Sustainable Development Seventeen Challenge Goals, aim to achieve three amazing things in the next fifteen years. 1. End extreme poverty, 2. Fight inequality and injustice and 3. Fix climate change.

The girls will be presented with their badges at our Parents' Evening on 18th May. We complete the session with the Youth Committee outing to Edinburgh Zoo and the Youth Service. Congratulations to our newest leader Carol Deveney who has just completed her Rainbow Leadership Qualification. As the girls would say, "Well done, well done, well done."

Dates for your diary

Friday 18th May – Parents' Evening (last night)

Saturday 19th May – Family Trip to Edinburgh Zoo, meet at 9am in uniform.

Sunday 20th May – Youth Service, meet at 10.45am in uniform



March saw the Guides undertake another 'Go For It' Challenge. These challenges run over a period of 4 weeks and form a large part of the current Guiding Programme. All Guides took part and gained their latest 'Go For It' badge. Craft nights and badge work continue with new skills learned including making bird feeders, fruit kebabs, cake decoration and pitching a tent. Obviously, activities involving food require lots of sampling - purely for quality control!

Activities for May include finishing off badge work, a visit from some of the Brownies who will move up to Guides in the Autumn and some outdoor activities – weather permitting!

We hope all our guides enjoy their summer holidays and we look forward to seeing everyone again in August.



Sunday School - Janice McCallum

We had a great day at Easter with the Easter celebrations in church, and the Easter egg competition; well done to all participants and especially the winners. After collecting balloons from the balloon tree we headed over to the halls for Easter activities including an Easter Egg Hunt, making cards, bags or chocolate nests with eggs and a chick. The Easter Bunny made sure that everyone received an egg.

In April the children were tasked with designing a "Bug Hotel" for our Eco garden; winning design to be built. This led to intense competition and a difficult task for judge Jim McDougall. He decided on three winners; in alphabetical order, Rory Armstrong, Blair Cameron and Lucy Rae so elements will be taken from all three to build a "Bug Superhotel". All children were rewarded with Jelly Worms and special prizes were awarded to the winners. April and May will see us busy in our Eco garden - remember "Springwatch" on 20 May. (see Oracle for details) Thanks for the pots etc. donated for the garden.

We are using Scripture Union material for our lessons. For our promotion service in June we are learning a few songs and all the children will receive a Bible or a book. This will also be Fathers' Day so all gentlemen in the congregation will be given a gift. All are welcome to lunch in the hall after the service.



Sunday School and Organisations singing at the Family service

Thanks to Jacqueline, Holly and friend Erin for our aerobics class and hip hop demonstration. The boys weren't too keen so they had ball games: great fun and enjoyment.



Thanks also to the Sunday School staff for their continued support, dedication and hard work for the children.

Youth Committee - Neil Armstrong

The Youth Committee would like to thank the one hundred and twenty people who went on our cinema outing to see Paddington 2. There was plenty of laughter, even from the adults.

Despite our trip clashing with other events, over one hundred and forty people will be going on the visit to Edinburgh Zoo on the 19th of May; fantastic. I hope we all manage to stay on the right side of the enclosures!

The Youth Committee will be working hard through the summer break planning some more exciting trips. Keep your eyes peeled for further announcements on either the Youth Committee notice board or in Oracle.

The Saturday Club will continue to run through the summer break. For those who are interested, come along and join in the fun on Saturday afternoons 1pm-4pm. We have badminton, table tennis, indoor curling and many more exciting activities.

Finally, I hope you all enjoy your summer break.

Tots and Toddlers - Janice McCallum

Please feel free to use this service; it runs during the Church service. The children are well looked after and play games, draw and sing. There is also a wide variety of toys for all ages. I would like to thank those who run this service: it is very much appreciated by the parents who use it.



Seashore Summer Holiday Club
For Boys and Girls : P1 - P7
30th July to 3rd August 10:00 to 12:30
In Oakshaw Trinity Church Hall

Registration forms and £10 fee required by 20th May

We have a good shepherd, who hears us and is willing to guide us. Let us pray.

Eternal loving God, you reach out to all people everywhere. Good shepherd, you seek out especially those among us who are lost. You heal us when we are hurt and You feed us when we are hungry. You guide and steer us when we lose our way. So may we learn from Your example, and be always ready to reach out, to befriend and support our brothers and sisters, who all are Your flock, in our world together, now and forever.

Amen.

(from Douglas Scott, Presbytery Prayer Coordinator)

Future Magazine Dates

Edition	Articles due by	Magazine available
Autumn	29/07/18	12/08/18
Winter	28/10/18	11/11/18

Church Directory

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