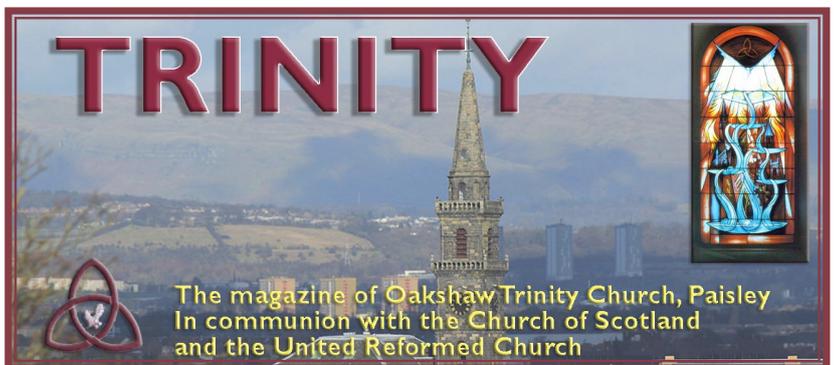




Winter 2019

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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



2019

November

- Sun 17 19.00 Fellowship Group
- Sat 23 Christmas Coffee Morning 10.00-12 noon
- Thu 28 Girls' Brigade Coffee Evening

December

- Sun 1 10.15 Office Bearers' Service
11.00 Sacrament of Holy Communion
12.30 Bread and Soup Lunch
- Sun 8 11.00 Morning Worship -
Sunday School Gift Service
- Sun 15 11:00 Lessons and Carols for Christmas
- Sun 22 11:00 Christmas with the Children
19:00 Christmas Jingles
- Tue 24 22:00 Coffee & Christmas Pies
23:00 Carol Singing in the church
23:30 Watchnight Service
- Wed 25 10:30 Christmas Day Family Service
- Sun 29 11:00 Morning Worship



2020

January

- Sun 5 Monthly Communion after the service
- Sun 19 19:00 Fellowship Group
- Thu 30 Guides Coffee Evening

February

- Sun 2 Monthly Communion after the service
- Sat 15 Church Ceilidh
- Sun 16 19:00 Fellowship Group
- Sun 23 11:00 Family Service
- Tue 25 Friendly Hour - Open Afternoon

On other Sundays, morning worship is at 11.00



From the Minister

Dear friends,

Welcome and once again, every blessing to all of our readers whether you are with us Sunday by Sunday or reading this from further afield. Our time of change continues in the church with the retiral of Bob Copleton after some sixteen years as Session Clerk and the election of John McKenzie as his replacement just a few weeks ago.



As we approach Christmas again, there is often a wide range of emotions going on within us. For the young, there is the excitement of presents and parties and for others, the joy of spending time with family and friends. Yet this can also be a lonely time for many, especially for the homeless and those who are on their own.

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth". (John 1:14).

Since the fourth century, Western Christians have celebrated the nativity of Jesus Christ on 25th December. There are many theories about the origin of this festival day; as it would seem more likely to have taken place around the time of Epiphany; 6th January. Regardless, the time between 25th December and 6th January has become an occasion for the Church to celebrate and give thanks for the arrival of God's Word made flesh - the light of God that has come into the world, the light that even death could not extinguish. This is the 'Good News' that we need to hear in our rapidly changing world (with the exception of Brexit, which seems to dragging on yet again).

May I take this opportunity to encourage you to make time to think about why Christ's coming into the world is such 'Good News'. It wasn't really as an excuse to give and receive presents and to hold parties... He came to bring peace. This wouldn't be the end of heartache and strife in our world or even in our lives as Christ came to bring peace between us and God.

May you all know the contentment and joy of God this Christmas and may that set your marker for 2020.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Gordon

(Rev. Gordon B. Armstrong)

Wynd Worship - John Stewart

The rota for the period November 2019 to June 2020 is now being prepared. We are indebted to that small number of volunteers who undertake this part of OTC worship. Please consider if you can help and if you can, please pass your name to me or contact Catriona in the Church Office.

Material is available to assist in preparation.



The Wynd worship is on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 9.45 and lasts for 15 minutes.

Wynd Centre - Rev. Gordon Armstrong (Chairman)

The Board members, staff and many volunteers continue to work to maintain our church's outreach centre and to keep it at the forefront as a centre of community excellence in the heart of Paisley.



Rebecca Black is our Counselling Manager and, since coming to us a couple of years ago, she has made our Counselling Service one of the most respected in the area. Rebecca has introduced Play Therapy, which is available for younger children who are accompanied by their parent or guardian. This is a highly specialised and much needed field of counselling and along with the Board and John Stewart we have been able to secure significant funding to run this project.

If you have some free time, and think that you might be able to help in some way, please do speak to me or telephone Georgette at the Wynd office.



Church Roll

Deaths:

02/08/19 Elizabeth Condy
12/08/19 Madge Borland
24/08/19 Jean Christie
28/08/19 Alex Muir



From the new Session Clerk John McKenzie

When Bob Copleton intimated that he would like to step down from the position of Session Clerk and Church Secretary earlier in the year, I never envisaged that a few months later I would be writing to introduce myself as his successor.



To many of you in the congregation I will be relatively well known; to others not so well known but I hope that over the next few months we can change that situation and with your help and support we can continue to do Oakshaw Trinity's work in the centre of Paisley and beyond and still be the "light on the hill"

I am sure that like me you will wish Bob an enjoyable retirement after fifteen years of hard work, dedication and commitment as Session Clerk.

In closing can I express both Bob's and my own thanks to Rev Gordon Armstrong for a wonderful service and to every one for their best wishes.

Yours in Fellowship,
John

PRAYTIME from Douglas Scott (presbytery prayer coordinator)

Listen and Hear

Do you sometimes get the impression when you're talking to someone that they're just ignoring you, not paying the slightest heed to what you have to say? When we pray, we can be sure that God is always attentive.

A parishioner once asked the minister: "Why when you're preaching do you always shout and rant and rave, yet when you pray we can hardly make you out?"

And the minister answered: "Well, when I'm preaching I'm usually talking to a bunch of sleepyheads, whose minds are elsewhere. But when I'm praying, talking to God, I know that he always listens, even if I'm spouting rubbish!"

Wherever, whenever we talk to God, he is beside us, and hears us, even if we're spouting rubbish.

Let's make sure that we too are always ready to hear God.

Education, Mission, EcoCongregation Committee

- Jim McDougall (E.M.E.C.)

"Morning has broken"

Is there any time more exciting than Christmas morning? Just before the first present is opened? Of course, the whole build-up to Christmas is a time for children and a time to be a child again. The excitement of rehearsing the Nativity, the lighting of the Advent candles, singing the "ancient Yuletide carols", relishing the prospect of holidays and the anticipation of Christmas Eve and a sleepless night waiting to see what Santa has left under the tree are all part of that indefinable magic that we call Christmas and which culminates in the early morning shout of children rushing from their beds, "He's been!" There is something about the very word "Christmas" that still makes our hearts quicken, perhaps for the memories it evokes, making us child-like, if only for a brief moment in an otherwise dark and challenging world, with its "many a conflict and many a doubt". We are awakened once more to that indefinable sense of mystery and excitement that defines the essence of Christmas. Whether it be the opening lines of Once in Royal David's City at the Service of Nine Lessons, or a rousing chorus of "O Come Immanuel", or hearing once more the timeless verses from Luke 2.

We talk often of the innocence of childhood, that beguiling naivety which is the very opposite of so-called adult sophistication. Who is not touched by the laughter of children opening their presents, or the by youngsters singing "Little Donkey" or a wee voice valiantly reading a lesson? At Christmas, many "grown-ups" seek a return not just to the security of childhood, but something deeper, too. In his analysis of the Beatles songs, musicologist Professor Wilfred Mellers points out that many of their lyrics had a childlike quality, that he described as a yearning for Eden, a return home. "Once there was a way", writes Paul McCartney in "Abbey Road", "to get back homeward; once there was a way to get back home".

In the opening of Daphne Du Maurier's classic novel, "Rebecca", the narrator recounts her dream as she too tries to get back home; "Last night I went to Manderley again. It seemed to me I stood by the iron gate leading to the drive and for a while I could not enter for the way was barred to me". In the dream, for a brief moment, she gets through the gate and recreates earlier happier times in that old house that now lies abandoned, its grounds overgrown, bringing her old life back. But always, she is conscious that, "like all sleepers, I knew that I dreamed". The dream ends, as she wakes, knowing that Manderley is no more: "In reality I lay many hundred miles away in an alien land, and would wake".

Like that dream, does our desire for the Eden of childhood, for the ineffable magic of Christmas end once the final piece of wrapping paper has been discarded and the last mince pies wolfed down? Perhaps, to quote CS Lewis, there is a deeper magic. Here are concluding words from "The Last Battle" the final book in his Narnia chronicles. Maybe it takes the adult in us to fully grasp its childlike message, the true magic of Christmas morning:

"You do not yet look so happy as I mean you to be," [Aslan said]. Lucy said, "We're so afraid of being sent away, Aslan. And you have sent us back into our own world so often."

"No fear of that," said Aslan. "Have you not guessed?"

Their hearts leaped and a wild hope rose within them....

"The term is over: the holidays have begun. The dream is ended: this is the morning."

Diary

Sunday 1st December traditional soup and bread lunch after Communion.

Sunday 22nd December 7 pm "Christmas Jingles"- join us in the Hall for an informal evening of food and an opportunity to sing popular carols and Christmas songs.

ECO Congregation - Fiona Catterson

We recently held an Autumn Watch event where the Eco Garden was tidied for the winter, ensuring that habitat was available for animals sheltering from the elements.

Bulbs were also planted for spring flowering. The decorated panels were attached to the blanked off

windows to make the garden even more appealing to spend time in. It is such a lovely, quiet, spiritual area and I do encourage everyone to visit it, even taking your coffee out to there on Sunday morning and enjoy its atmosphere. The decorated panels were designed and painted by our young people and reflect the natural calendar year: Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. There are photos of this event on our noticeboard in the main hall.

A Zero Waste "Ties, Trinkets and Toys" stall ran at coffee time on the same day. This was highly successful and people asked for it to run more frequently as "it is such a good idea" and "we all have things lying around that we no longer use" so "if someone else can use it then that is great".

Once again, we will distribute a Reverse Advent Calendar in support of Renfrewshire Foodbank so look out for it from the start of Advent. The idea of this is to give an item each day of Advent rather than receive a gift/ chocolate etc. This was very successful last year and the Foodbank received many more donations as a result. Please do note, though, that any foodstuffs which contain alcohol cannot be donated. This includes Christmas Puddings, some mincemeat pies etc.



From our Student Assistant - Dougie Adam

Thank you for the warm welcome to Oakshaw. I've been asked to tell you a little about myself and my journey to become a candidate for ministry. I'm 46 and live in Paisley with my wife Michelle and in June we welcomed Michael, our adopted son into the family a few weeks before his first birthday. The last 2 years have been busy with the adoption process and my studies during the Church of Scotland period of discernment and national assessment conference.



I was born and raised in Paisley with family church connections to both Greenlaw and Sherwood. The families also passed on enthusiasm for St Mirren, when I was too young to know any better! Before I began primary school we moved to Bridge of Weir and the Freeland Church. At 16 I came to faith in the Methodist Central Hall in Paisley. Shortly afterwards I attended my first Scripture Union camp. I left camp with a sense that God hears and answers our prayers. It was in my local church that my faith was nurtured and a youth fellowship was started with other young Christians.

I had a sense of God's call when I was leaving school and changed my course of study from English and History to Divinity and I graduated from Glasgow in 1996. I then spent 2 years as a volunteer youth worker with Bo'ness Old Kirk. I heard about team ministry and was accepted to train as a parish assistant (2 more years study and placements) then on to a probationary year at Musselburgh and Wallyford. I then spent almost 5 years with Oldmachar Church in Bridge of Don as their youth worker in a new charge development.

For 13 years I have been the schools' worker for West Renfrewshire Youth Trust which involves local churches, schools and SU Scotland. I have also done pulpit supply and this, and many other things, led to my decision to apply to become an ordained minister.

Over the next couple of years I'll be combining my work with WRYT with part-time placements with the Church of Scotland and studying theology again at Highland Theological College and juggling all of that with fatherhood. I'm looking forward to worshipping at Oakshaw Trinity and getting to know you all.

Fabric Committee - Sandra Wilson

It has been a busy time again for the fabric committee with repairs being carried out in the halls and church on a regular basis.

Work has been completed to repair the ceiling in the vestry. This has taken nearly a year to complete as Renfrewshire Council were responsible for the work.

We are working hard to reduce our carbon footprint by replacing paper towels with efficient hand driers in the toilets, investigating the replacement of the older style lamps with LED lamps and installation of wi-fi to allow a hive system to be installed to control the heating remotely.



The first Sunday in December is scheduled for putting up the Christmas Decorations. This will be done after the service, and we would be grateful for any volunteers able to help with this. Soup and sandwiches will be provided.

Grant Funding - John Stewart

Refurbishment Grant Funding The Wynd has a planned refurbishment costing circa £60,000 over a 3 year period. This is a huge sum to raise. A grant of £1,950 has already been received towards the cost from Allchurches Trust Limited - but we need your help to raise the remainder. If you know any Trust which may be contacted, or wish to make a donation, contact me or Alex Smith.

Child Play Therapy Scheme Following the end of the successful pilot scheme reported in last Trinity Issue, a donation of £8,000 has been received from the former Paisley Child Contact Centre. This will ensure adequate resources of staff and equipment is available for the coming year. Grant applications have been made to fund 3 years and awaiting responses.

Choir - Catriona Muirhead

The start to our new session after the summer holidays was in September when Rev. Gordon Armstrong welcomed us with a lovely supper. This gave us time to chat and have fellowship together.

Time moves so fast and practices are well on the way with our Music for Christmas. The pieces which David our Director of Music has chosen are quite different to what we normally sing and we hope you will enjoy listening to them on Sunday 15th December at our Lessons and Carols Service.

Perhaps we could put out a plea for new members in all sections not only for older members but also for any young person thinking of joining a choir. Come along and join us - we all have to start somewhere. Our practices are held on Thursday evenings in the Church at 8.00 p.m. we would be delighted to welcome you.



Handbells Team - Elizabeth Clark

Our session started at the beginning of September and we continue to have two teams playing together on a Wednesday evening. We are delighted to have two new members, namely Megan and Callum, who have added a much younger dimension to our group. It is so encouraging to see young people taking up this musical hobby.

Towards the end of last session we were involved in playing at an "Afternoon of Music" in Glenburn Parish Church to celebrate the 100th birthday of one of their members.

We had a lovely visit from our Elders, Margaret and Ian Tannahill, who were able to use their musical skills to play along with us - unfortunately we could not persuade them to join us on a regular basis - but our door is always open!

Our concerts for the rest of this year are at Langbank Parish Church (27th Oct) and The Lyle Kirk (8th Dec) for a Peal of Carols. Some members of the team will also be accompanying the choir at a service in the church.

Tea & Crafts - Margaret Armstrong

This is a happy and cheerful group who meet in the Lang Hall on the second Monday of each month for evenings of conversation and creative fellowship. With Christmas fast approaching, we are working towards the Church Christmas Coffee Morning and are making and collecting bits and pieces for our table sale. If you have any hobbies or pastimes that you would like to share, or even if you just want to have some conversation, then do come along and join us. You will be made most welcome.



My experience of the Fellowship Group by Ian Waddell

I was curious about the Fellowship Group which met on a Sunday evening and decided to attend. That was a few winters ago. What I discovered was an informal fellowship, lead by Gordon discussing issues about faith and our own faith.

I have come to know the Christian author Philip Yancey and read some of his books. In his books he outlines circumstances we would consider overwhelming yet individuals still manage to turn their lives around.

I have also critically reviewed films depicting the life of Jesus, determining which were true to what we know of his life.

Other films have been shown relating to parables enhancing our understanding. We have also discussed topics such as questions surrounding Jesus' birth, our response to the Beatitudes, a view of the miracles and how to commemorate Holy Week.

At our first meeting of the new session we watched a film about and discussed Paul's journey to Rome with its sea voyage and shipwreck. At future sessions we will be looking at some of the parables.

If like me you think there is nothing on television on a Sunday evening worth watching or could be caught up on 'catch up', please come and join us. Over the winter we meet at 7p.m. on the third Sunday of the month in the Session House.

Of course there is a supply of coffee, tea and other goodies available along with the fellowship.

Friendly Hour - Margaret Pearson

"Friendship is arguably one of the most important aspects of life".
(Author Ann Williams)

The Friendly Hour's session began in early October with most members returning, however there will always be a warm welcome for new members. You can enjoy a friendly chat, tea or coffee and entertainment.

Our entertainers so far include: John Orr and Anne McMillan (singers); Caroline Kyle and Margaret Whyte

(flute and accordian); children from Dans Scene (tap, ballet and modern) and the HiLites (songs and music).

We look forward to Pauline and Helen (church choir); charity day with CHAS on 26th November and in December children from Mossvale Primary; our Christmas lunch and pupils from Castlehead High. In 2020 our varied entertainment programme starts on 14th January with the Renfrew Ladies Choir. We will also have children from West Primary performing items by Burns. We hope to welcome new members on our Open Day on 25th February. Come along to join us then or any Tuesday at 2 pm.



Oakshaw Explorers - Sheena Miller

Our excursions are over again for another year; very enjoyable despite having to make some changes of destinations from our original plan. We ended with a very enjoyable weekend at Pitlochry which included a visit to the theatre.



Eight o'clock Club - Joan Wilson

Our new session began successfully with an interesting Paisley Quiz in

September and a fun evening in October with Ann, Liz and Margaret passing on their skills in Card Making. We are



looking forward to an evening of Indoor Curling, on Monday 25th November, followed by a St Andrew's Night tea. Christmas Dinner outing to the Watermill will be on Monday 2nd December at 7 p.m. for 7.15 p.m. At the first meeting in 2020, Monday 27th January, we'll be working off our over-indulgences by doing gentle exercises with Tricia. On Monday 24th February, a representative from the Charity 'Smalls For All' will be explaining how our fundraising money will be used. All are welcome to join us. We meet in the Lang Hall at 8pm. Thanks to all those who bought our Quiz; please remember to return it by 25th November for a chance to win a luxury Christmas Hamper.

Men's Club - John Hamilton

We meet on Friday nights; normally the first members arrive around 7.15. We will meet from now until the end of April with the exceptions of the weeks of Christmas, New Year and Good Friday. If you have considered joining, join!! You will be made very welcome whether or not you are good at games e.g. table tennis. We will coach as required and balance teams to ensure an idiot and a dumpling on each side at table tennis.

Around 10 members attend each night and we expect another 2 soon so I should get a chance to throw a few darts: I may even hit the board!

We had arranged a visit to Martyr's Sandyford Men's Club but this was cancelled as the club is now closed. An invitation has been extended to their members to join us.

Trinity Lunch Club - Sheena Miller

Our final meeting for 2019 is 'Christmas Celebration' on Wednesday 11th December when a school choir will get us into the Christmas spirit.

In 2020 the meetings are 8th January - Finding your Feet and on 12th February - Cruise Ships.

We 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 the meetings, please ensure that your name is on the sheet in the vestibule of the church. This sheet is available on the two Sundays prior to the meeting and is needed for catering.

Trinity Theatre Group - Jean Bett

By the time you read this our show, 'Cinderella' will be over but as I write, we are in the throes of the last two to three weeks of rehearsals. Recently we have been doing Disney type musicals but this year we are going for a full blown pantomime - Oh yes we are! - with all the traditional panto style audience participation. On a very happy note, we have been delighted to welcome six new members to the club, five of whom are from Oakshaw Trinity. Brilliant! Thank you to all who have supported us and a special thank you to our two elders, Catriona and Sheila, who are so supportive and encouraging.



Social Events Committee - Isabel Pearson

We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to Lorna and Graeme Gibson, who have resigned from the Events Committee.

Christmas Coffee Morning - 23rd November 2019

The Christmas Coffee Morning will be held in the Church Hall from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. Tickets will be on sale from the beginning of November. Donations for the Christmas Gift, Craft and Bottle Bag stalls can be placed in the box in the hall any Sunday. Please come along and support this event.

Clic Sargent Carol Concert - 6th December 2019

A total of 85 people will attend this concert. And buses will leave Hunter Street at 6.00 p.m. I am sure we will all have a super evening.

Christmas Coffee Morning

Saturday 23rd November

in the Church Hall.

10.00 till 12.00

Girls' Brigade (2nd Paisley) - Karen Peacock

Our 12th year began in August. We welcomed a few new girls, some Juniors became Brigaders and we were pleased some new Explorers joined us.

Our annual Pyjama Party/Bring a Friend night was a great success and some 'Friends' have joined us.

All sections continue badge work. Explorers are working on Festivals and Celebrations; Juniors on Chromatography Butterflies and Brigaders on Women and the Bible.

Future events include: themed party on October 31st; Fundraising Coffee Evening on 28th November (tickets £2 including a mince pie on sale Sun 24th Nov. or pay on the night); and PACE pantomime on 5th December.

We have 5 teams participating in the Divisional Competition on 9th November and hope to make it a hat trick as we have won trophies in the last two years.

We now have 40 members and a larger Brigade section so timings have changed slightly for access to a larger hall.

Registration – All Sections – 6.45-7.00pm

Explorer & Juniors Sections P1-P7 – 7.00-8.00pm

Brigader Section S1-S6 – 7.00-8.30pm

Boys' Brigade (14th Paisley) - Craig McFie

During the summer we said a fond farewell to Mrs Stewart who reired after over 60 years' service. She was presented with a Long Service Certificate from Paisley and District Battallion as well as a number of gifts from staff and parents.

We started again in August with a few new members and a new leader, Andy Cuthbert. A Spooktacular Hallowe'en party on 25th October showcased great costumes.

We will welcome new members, including adult volunteers. For more information contact Craig McFie or any leader. On Twitter, follow us at @14thPaisleyBB.



Guides (11th Paisley) - Linda Kelly

We welcomed some new girls this year and, now that they have taken their Guide promise, they and the other Guides are working on interest badges and skillbuilders. Hallowe'en falling on a Thursday meant themed games, crisps, chocolate and sweets on a 'Don't Dress Up' night. November included a visit from Carlos with his first Guide Dog, Marine. Carlos was excellent, discussing issues in his everyday life.

We plan to fit in some craft nights before finishing on 12th December and we start again on 9th January.

Next year we will have a Charity Coffee Evening on 30th January, 7.45 - 9.15. Everyone is welcome, pay £2 at the door. As all money raised will go to Guide Dogs for the Blind we hope for a very large turnout.

We wish all a merry and peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Saturday Club - Graeme Dewar

The Saturday Club returns after a break for the October school week and is in the church halls between 1pm and 4pm for fun and games for children primary 7 and above.

Younger children are welcome but require to be accompanied by an adult. I would like to thank the Oakshaw Explorers who allowed us to join them on their Arran visit in August which was a great day out for all. My continued thanks to all the helpers who keep the club running smoothly every week.



Rainbows and Brownies -

Elizabeth Halliday

This term the Rainbows and Brownies have been enjoying some fun outdoors making campfires and building dens as part of the 'Camp' badge. It would have been crazy not to enjoy toasting marshmallows and making smores while keeping warm around the mini fires. We have also been working on our 'Communication' badge and many of the girls have also completed their 'Mindfulness' badge at home.

We all thoroughly enjoyed the trip to see The Lion King and are now looking forward to seeing Trinity Theatre Group's performance of Cinderella.

Youth Committee - Neil Armstrong (Convener)

Firstly I would like to thank everyone who attended the Youth outing to the cinema to see the Lion King, despite it being an old film it was great to see the difference in animation many years down the line.

The Youth Committee have met with some of our senior members of the organisations to discuss future planning. There are many good and exciting ideas for the committee to work on and hope that we're able to bring these ideas forwards.

The members of the Youth Committee wish each and every one of you best wishes throughout the festive period.



Sunday School - Edith Muir

October's lessons were on the days of Creation, looking after God's wonderful world and thanking God for our Daily Bread. The month ended with Harvest when the children and the Brownies made up Harvest bags which were handed out to the congregation on Harvest Sunday. The children also donated tinned goods to the food bank.

We are short on numbers but not in enthusiasm. The children are excited about the Nativity but we could do with a few more to join in. If any of the members of the youth organisations would like to join us, please come along (or we may have to resort to getting members of the congregation to help out !!)

The senior group are finding out how the church works, so they will be watching a communion service, helping out at the door and may even interview people on their roles in the church. Please make them welcome and help them where you can.

Many thanks to the members of the congregation for their donations of bubble wrap, paper and cardboard to help in our craft work; it is much appreciated.



Trinity Tots - Edith Muir

The Trinity Tots has a wealth of good toys, is held in a safe comfortable space and can be used either as a crèche if parents want time to worship in peace, or as a parent and toddler group.

A Legendary Story

Three trees once grew on a hillside and as they swayed in the breeze they would discuss what they would like to be.

"I should like to be cut down one day" said the first tree, "and become a baby's cradle". "I would not like to be a baby's cradle" said the second tree - "I would like to be cut down one day and become a great ship sailing the sea, carrying treasures and precious stones". The third tree just said "I should like to stand on a hilltop and point people to heaven".

One day the woodcutters came along and cut down the first tree. "Let us make it into a cattle stall" said the woodcutters. "But I do not want to be a cattle stall" cried the tree, "I want to be a baby's cradle". But they turned it into a cattle stall and when Jesus was born they laid him gently in a cattle stall for there was nowhere else to put him. The tree said "This is far more wonderful than I ever dreamed".

The woodcutters said of the second tree - "Let us make this tree in to a fishing boat", but the tree said "I do not want to be a fishing boat; I want to be a great ship carrying treasure and precious stones". But they turned the tree into a fishing boat and put it on an inland lake. A fisherman called Simon Peter bought the boat and Jesus sailed in it. The tree said "This is more wonderful than I ever dreamed".

Of the third tree the woodcutters said "Let us make it into a cross". But the tree said "I do not want to be a cross, a thing of shame where men die". "I want to stand on a hilltop and point the way to Heaven". But they turned the tree into a cross, Jesus was nailed to that cross and it has pointed them to God.



EMEC Outing, 30th August

Thirty members of the congregation joined the third EMEC 'pilgrimage', visiting Scotland's small towns of Dunblane and Dunkeld. A church has been on this site since 600AD, however present building is 13th Century, restored since the Reformation. Nearby is an informative museum explaining Dunblanes' history. In exploring the local shops, the minister was taken by the excellent butcher's shop with its wide range of steak pies!

Next stop, Dunkeld. After lunch, we visited the Cathedral, which has long been a centre of Christian worship. It's a split building, between original choir, and remaining portion including nave, preserved as an ancient monument. The adjoining chapter house contains its history. The day concluded with coffee and cake in a Dunkeld café. We hope everyone enjoyed their day, and made some new friends. Next outing is Saturday 29th August 2020.

Catriona tried to outshine Sir Andy Murray's gold pillar box with her jacket!

Use of photographs:

Pictures of people involved in activities related to the church and the Wynd Centre are now appearing in Trinity magazine, on the Oakshaw Trinity website and on the Oakshaw Trinity Facebook page.

It is assumed, unless anyone specifically requests otherwise, that individuals are happy to be included in any church or Wynd Centre related photographs that appear in Trinity magazine, on the Oakshaw Trinity website, or on the Oakshaw Trinity Facebook page.

Anyone wishing to opt out of their picture appearing in any or all of the above mentioned locations should contact the Church office.

The Sunday School and Youth organisations' photographs are covered by separate arrangements the organisations have with the parents or guardians of the children.



Future Magazine Dates

Edition	Articles due by	Magazine available
Spring	26/01/20	09/02/20
Summer	03/05/20	17/05/20

Church Directory

Minister	Rev, Gordon Armstrong BD FIAB BRC Cert. CS	0141 887 4647 Press 3
Session Clerk	John McKenzie	Church Office
Treasurer	Isabel Pearson	Church Office
Fabric Convenor	Sandra Wilson	Church Office
Church Office	Catriona Muirhead	0141 887 4647 Press 3